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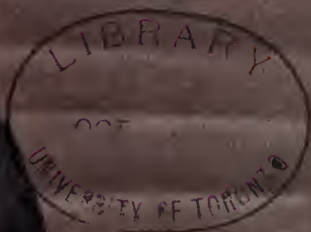
STEAD'S

98

JULY 7TH

1917.

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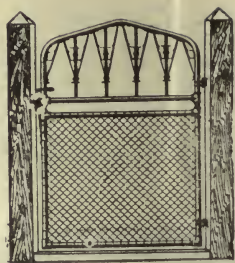


Fig. 240—4 ft. 6 in. high.

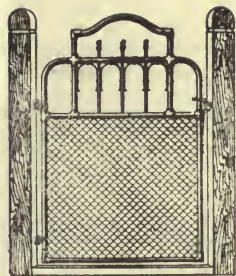


Fig. 243—4 ft. 6 in. high.



Fig. 231B—4 ft. high.

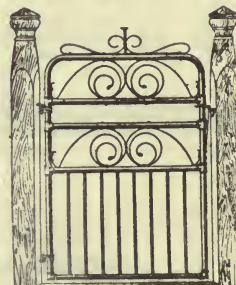


Fig. 248B—4 ft. 6 in. high.

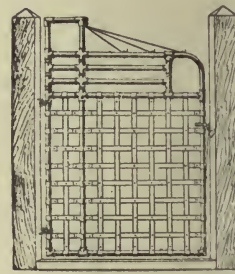


Fig. 244—4 ft. 6 in. high.

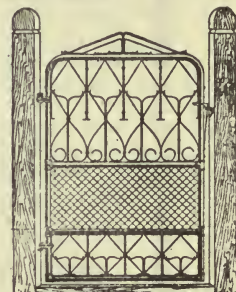


Fig. 245—4 ft. 6 in. high.

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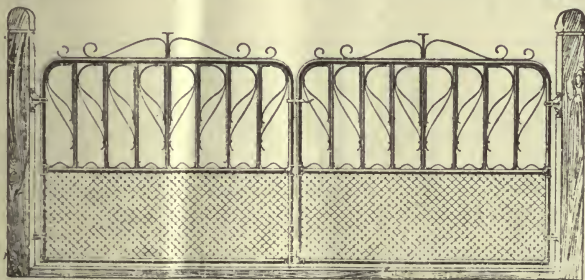


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Yours faithfully,

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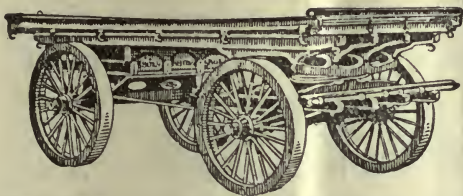
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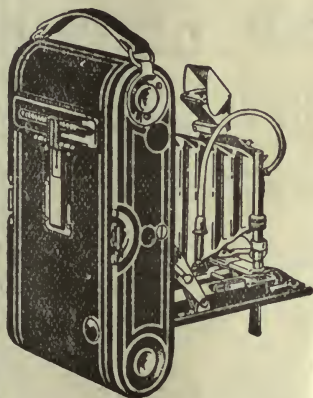
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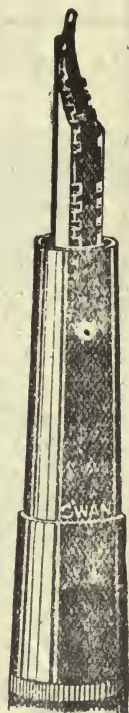
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CONTENTS OF STEAD'S REVIEW

For JULY 7th, 1917.

	PAGE		PAGE
War Scenes — — — — — Frontispiece		Albania and Its People	27
Progress of the World—		Catechism of the War—XLV.	32
British and German Diplomats Meet	5	Topics of the Day	37
Both Sides Should be More Definite	5	A Near View of the Russian Revolution	40
Towards Peace	6	Tommy and Gerry	41
The Tragic Mesopotamian Muddle	6	Carviag Up Austria	43
Bureaucrats Induced	7	German Women and the War	45
Opposition to Lloyd George	8	What Could Have Been Done With the	
Good News from the West	8	£3,000,000,000 Wasted on War	47
In the Dune Country	9	How the Excess Profits Tax Has Worked in	
A 100,000 Aeroplane Fleet	9	Great Britain	48
The Trentino Drive Begins	10	Notable Books—	
Another Try at Constantinople	11	A Field Marshal's Memories	49
The Future of Syria	11	The Melancholy Tale of "Me"	50
Turkey and the German Colonies	12	Russia: Ancient and Modern	51
M. Venizelos Takes Charge	12	The Street of Ink, Palmer and Shaw	52
Democratising Austria	12	A Woman's Notebook—	
In Russia	12	Co-operative Homes	53
An Extraordinary Ballot	13	Little Things About a Car	54
Alas! the Poor Neutral	14	Discoveries	56
Unrest in Spain	14	Financial and Business Quarter	57
The Good Angel of Europe	15	Esperanto Notes	59
China and Japan	15	National Efficiency. By J. A. Butler	60
A Standing Army 6,000,000 Strong!	16		
The Loss of the Mongolia	16		
The Tchinnovnik of the Foreign Office	17		
Mr. Hughes Sticks to His Pledge	18		
Inaccurate Calculations Compelled Referendum	18		
The Conscrition Edifice Collapses	19		
A False Thesis	19		
Canada and Australia	20		
We Should Know Each Other Better	20		
History in Caricature — — — — —	21		

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AUSTRALIAN BAND MARCHING THROUGH BAPAUME.



JUNE 30, 1917.

British and German Diplomats Meet.

Quite the most remarkable piece of news which has come over the cables during the last two weeks was tucked away in our papers in an inconspicuous corner. Almost, it would seem, they were ashamed to print it! Yet it conveys the first real suggestion of the coming peace—for which we all so long. Until last week there has been no meeting between British and enemy diplomatists since the war began, all negotiations have been carried on through some neutral intermediary. It is surprising, then, that this first significant meeting since August, 1914, should pass almost unnoticed, certainly entirely uncommented on! As I write, a British statesman, a British High Court judge, and a British general are sitting at a table in Holland, and opposite them are a German statesman, a German general, and a German jurist. At the head of the table is a Dutch diplomatist. These men are discussing the treatment of prisoners in Germany and in England, are negotiating the exchange of wounded and civilians, and are going into the question of prisoners generally. This is at any rate a beginning. Mr. Asquith, it will be remembered, declared that no negotiations whatever could ever be carried on

direct between British and Germans until the executioners of Captain Fryatt and Nurse Cavell had been brought to book; yet, despite that assertion, which, at the time, plunged those who looked for an end to the war within the next few years in despair, this meeting of British and German representatives is taking place. Let us hope that discussions will not be confined to the treatment and exchange of prisoners only. Nothing much may be achieved by the present conference, but the mere holding of it is immensely significant, and the meeting of Britons and Germans round an official council table is a great step on the way to peace.

Both Sides Should be More Definite.

It is pleasing to note that there is a general appreciation of the fact that President Wilson entered the war with the determined intention of seeing that a secure and final peace is made. He will not countenance annexations by Germany or by the Allies, and is against heavy indemnities except as compensations for damage done. The Allies have refused to consider any terms that Germany might be inclined to propose, but the President is open to listen at any time. Thus far he says he has not

received any definite peace proposals from the Germans, but if they do approach him he, at any rate, would give careful heed to what they say. If the Germans do formulate moderate peace proposals, we would, of course, at once say that they were weakening, and if they put forward heavy demands, we would say that they had yet to be taught their lesson; we cannot but hope, though, that both sides will soon state far more definitely than hitherto on what terms they would conclude peace. The rival terms might be poles apart, but to know definitely what they were would be a great step towards peace. The Allies' aims are still indefinite, and the German aims have never been stated, although we have credited them with the intention of seizing the earth and the sea. We have more or less officially declared that Austria is to be broken up and Turkey banished from Europe and dismembered. Poland, we say, must be made independent and must be given an outlet to the sea. Italy must have Trieste and the Trentino. France must get back Alsace and Lorraine. Britain must retain captured colonies. Belgium and Serbia and Roumania must be restored and compensated. Sunk ships must be replaced and Prussian militarism must be destroyed.

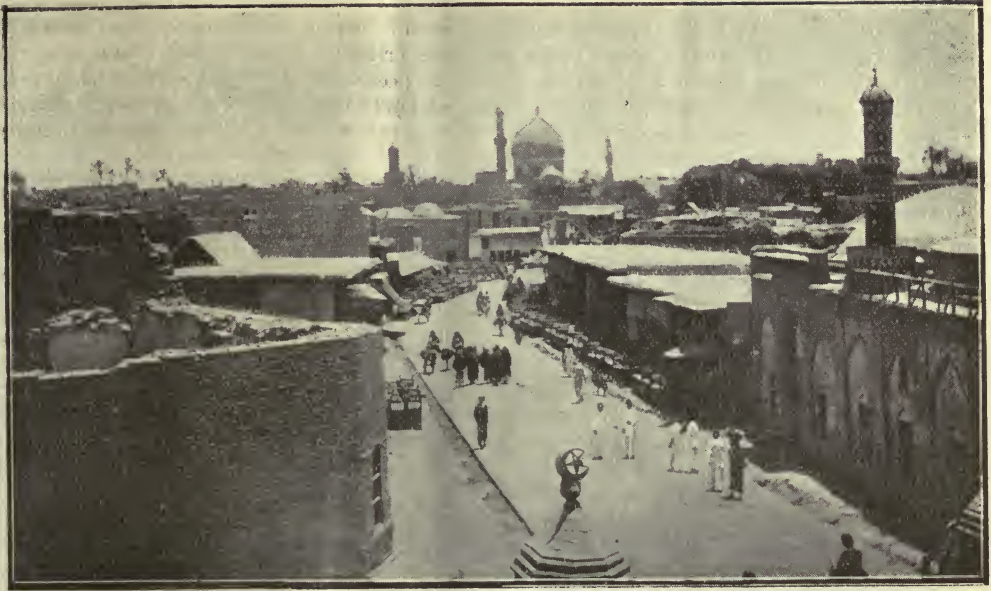
Towards Peace.

Yet, though we have specifically stated these things at different times, we have only indicated them in vague terms in our official statement of our aims. We may be quite certain that Austria does not intend to be divided up if she can help it; that the Turk will go on fighting for existence, that Germany will not give up Alsace-Lorraine to France or Danzig to Poland. As long as our declared aims can be interpreted to mean the things set out above, so long will it be entirely possible for the German leaders to convince the people that their very existence is in danger. Until Germany definitely sets out her aims it is possible for our leaders to convince us that she intends to retain Belgium, to keep Serbia, to dominate Turkey, and to annex Australia and any other inviting unoccupied part of the British Empire. It is possible that Lord Newton and his colleagues may come back from The Hague with some definite knowledge of Germany's peace aims, and that the enemy diplomats they met there may take back to the Kaiser more detailed information concerning Allied intentions than he has yet been able to get. The war

fever in European countries has entirely passed. There is clearly a growing demand amongst the people themselves that the frightful carnage should end as speedily as possible, and the desire to know with absolute distinctness what they are fighting for is becoming more and more insistent. All this makes for peace.

The Tragic Mesopotamian Muddle.

Now that the report of the Mesopotamian Commission has been published it is possible to comment on the terrible business which culminated in Townshend's surrender at Kut, but this freedom is entirely unwelcome. It is difficult to understand why the Government permitted the publication of a report which has sent a shiver through our people and must inevitably rejoice the enemy. What possible good object could be served in letting people wholesale into the secret of the frightful failure of the Bureaucracy of India, and again disclose, before their eyes, the terrible lack of cohesion which has been our bane since the war started. It is conceivable that some political end may be gained; but even to secure the resignation of Lord Hardinge and spoil for ever Mr. Asquith's chance of again becoming Prime Minister, too heavy a price has been paid for this exposé of bungling, and official stupidity must cover the whole race with shame, and create a horrible feeling of dismay. Whilst the present report reveals to the public an awful picture, there were plenty of folk entirely aware of the terrible bungling that went on. The Indian papers, indeed, were quite frank in the matter, and published details which, until now, have never seen the light elsewhere. But though the papers were frank, they did not tell the half of the story that was disclosed in letters from India and Mesopotamia. Knowing the colossal blunders which were being made, it was not at all difficult to forecast disaster to General Townshend in his dash for Bagdad, or to assume that—failing a miracle—he would be obliged to surrender at Kut. But what caused those aware of the facts to gasp with amazement was the official utterances of responsible statesmen concerning the ill-fated Bagdad expedition. Mr. Asquith, indeed, after dwelling on the gloomy picture of a ravished Poland, a lost Serbia, the Dardanelles failure, and the deadlock in the west, turned to the Mesopotamian campaign and declared that it was probably the best conceived and carried out of the



IN THE GLORIOUS CITY.

The main street of Bagdad, the ancient city of the Caliphs, whose glory passed centuries ago.

whole war! And now! It is admitted that no expedition of modern times has been carried out worse, never have there been such bad medical arrangements, such inadequate transport, and general bungling as in this same Mesopotamian campaign. To make matters worse, things were not improved even when Townshend, after winning a glorious "victory" at Ctesiphon, was chased back to Kut. The same criminal bungling and short-sightedness were shown in the expeditions which on several occasions attempted to get through to his relief.

Bureaucrats Indeed.

People living in India have furiously criticised the financial member of the Council, Sir William Meyer, for the parsimonious manner in which he financed the campaign. They blamed Lord Hardinge for not insisting on proper funds being forthcoming, and roundly declared that it was sheer absurdity for the Army Chiefs to try and run a war in Mesopotamia without themselves troubling to even visit that country. Amazing as it may seem, the plan of campaign was laid down and directed from the cool headquarters at Simla, and not one man of those who did the supreme directing ever went to Mesopotamia to investigate conditions on the spot! It was not until Sir Charles Munro

was appointed Commander-in-Chief in India that a soldier in highest responsibility went to see how things were on the spot. That doughty Scotch warrior soon summed up the situation, and insisted on having railways built, river steamers provided, hospital ships sent out, and on reinforcements if the campaign were to be carried on further. He cleaned up the mess and put the army there on a proper footing. Instead of tinkering at the business he built up a new organisation. The result is that we now occupy Bagdad, and Munro is the sort of man who will see that it is possible for us to hang on to it, despite the defection of the Russians and the coming of the floods. But let us not again blind ourselves to obvious facts. The Russians have withdrawn on Erzerum, they are now far from the Persian frontier, the floods are out, and if we may believe neutral reports, von Mackensen is in Asia Minor. He once spent several months in Bulgaria. There are those who consider that our "side shows" have merely been a source of weakness, and can aid nothing at all towards final victory. The publication of this present report, following the publication of that about Gallipoli, will certainly confirm them in their view. It also demonstrates in startling manner that the bureaucrat of India is a bureaucrat indeed!

Opposition to Lloyd George.

Lloyd George was made Prime Minister of Great Britain six months ago, to pull the country out of the mess into which it had got during the Asquith administration. In order to get results he took to himself two colleagues, Lord Milner and Lord Curzon, and assumed, with them, supreme power. His methods were autocratic, and no doubt he is right in believing that such methods are needed if England is to emerge victorious from the terrific struggle. But Parliament, for so long accustomed to be consulted by Ministers, to have a say in the conduct of affairs, strongly resents this arbitrary assumption of power, and objects to the manner in which the Prime Minister has ignored it. The result is that the political truce has ended, and there is an obvious split in the Liberal ranks. Much the largest section supports Mr. Asquith, who is inevitably forced into opposition to Lloyd George. He is the only possible man to lead those who demand a return to democratic methods, and he presumably has not forgotten the manner in which his Welsh colleague seized the reins of Government. It was generally assumed that Lloyd George would be allowed at least

six months clear run, but that if during that time he failed to achieve any great improvements his position would certainly be challenged. The six months are up, and the challenge seems to be coming. But Mr. Asquith is the only possible alternative, and if the Dardanelles and Mesopotamia reports discredit him in the eyes of the country, the Prime Minister has nothing to fear. It is, perhaps, too easily forgotten that both Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law were members of the War Council, and therefore shared responsibility with Mr. Asquith. Viscount Grey and Lord Kitchener for Gallipoli and Kut-el-Amara.

Good News from the West.

The French have definitely announced that they do not intend to make any great offensive until the Americans arrive in force and this assertion finally dispels all hope of a general pushing back of the enemy in the west this year. The British, however, continue pressing slowly forward toward Lille, and are also active in the Dune country which lies between Ostend and Dunkirk. Whilst satisfactory gains are being made there does not appear to be any intention of launching a terrific drive against



THE FAMOUS MOSQUE AT KERBELA.

Kerbela is one of the sacred cities of the Moslem world, and is the goal of pilgrims from India, Persia, Afghanistan and Africa. It is now in British hands.

the German lines. We may, therefore, finally dismiss from our minds all idea of victory in the field this year, must resign ourselves to another winter in the trenches, again definitely postpone the "spring offensive." The news concerning the advance on Lens is distinctly good, and, ere these lines appear, the evacuation of the mining town by the Germans will probably have taken place, though our possession of it may be delayed. The capture of Givenchy and Vimy gave our soldiers the heights overlooking Lens, and since possessing themselves of this vantage point they have been steadily pushing down the eastern slope. Sir Douglas Haig announces the occupation of Avion, a village on the plain due south of Lens, and also records advances at Oppy, six miles S.S.E. of that town. Evidently the enemy are being forced down the slopes to the plain, in the midst of which stands Douai. Clearly the British have now all the advantage the possession of dominant positions can give them, but as they come down on to the flat themselves, they must to some extent part with this, and meet the foe on level terms.

In the Dune Country.

It is stated, by experts, that, once the Germans were driven from the high ground east of Arras on to the level country beyond, they would be unable to find any position of sufficient strength to enable them to make a stand until they reached the Meuse front, which is generally regarded as being a line running from Antwerp through Brussels to Maubeuge, and thence to Mezières on the Meuse. That view may be perfectly correct, but I fail to see why, when both armies are on a great flat plain, no stand could be made thereon by that one which was falling back. Where everything is level the following army could have no particular advantage; in fact, the one which could choose its ground would be able to secure whatever vantage points there were, would, therefore, be in the better position of the two. The fall of Lens does not, unfortunately, involve the abandonment of Lille by the Germans, but it is a necessary prelude thereto. Even though compelled to abandon Lens, for a time at anyrate, the Germans may be able to prevent our occupying and holding the place, for they have the ridge which runs due east immediately to the north of the place. Cables suggested some slight British advance towards Ostend, but the report that the Germans had shelled Dunkirk rather disprove this, for the old

line was at extreme gun range from the French seaport. Evidently, though, the enemy anticipate a formidable British attack in this quarter.

A 100,000 Aeroplane Fleet.

Already a contingent of American regulars has crossed the Atlantic and is training in France. Before long the soldiers will be in the trenches. But whilst they have reached France in astonishingly quick time, and will no doubt be quickly followed by the rest of the standing army, there must then inevitably come a long pause ere the troops, whose training begins this September, will be ready to go to Europe. Long before they are ready let us hope peace will have come. Meanwhile much is being said about the gigantic aerial fleet the Americans are getting ready to send to the front. Speculations are already being made as to the effect the arrival of these machines will have on the war, and there can be no doubt at all that if fifty or a hundred thousand aeroplanes suddenly arrived they might win the war for us out of hand. No anti-aircraft guns could possibly keep such a fleet at bay. It could bomb every railway station behind the enemy lines, could destroy the bridges over the Rhine, blow up munition factories, and block the Kiel Canal. Could, in fact, cripple the German armies and give us victory over them. But, alluring as this picture is, we have to spoil it when we come to seriously consider the matter. Could even America turn out 50,000 aeroplanes on short order? Could 50,000 aviators and twice that number of expert mechanics be discovered? There seems to be a general idea that American shops could turn out aeroplane engines as Mr. Ford turns out motor-cars; but, alas! there is a vast difference between aeroplane engines and those which are produced in such prodigious quantities by the motor king. The former have to be absolutely perfect in every detail, for the slightest defect means death to the aviator. They have to be made of the lightest and strongest steel, no cast-iron business for them. Each engine has to be subjected to the severest tests at the hands of experts. It is possible, of course, to standardise these engines, but it is not possible to produce the machines, which make the standard parts, overnight. It takes months to get them ready, to perfect the castings, and further months to try out the engines for defects which must at first inevitably develop. The famous Ford engine did not



AN AMERICAN TANK.

The Americans are experimenting with various types of tanks, one of which is shown in the above photograph

reach its present standard form all at once. It was arrived at by a process of elimination and experiment. So with the standardised aeroplane engine. It will take many months to produce in any quantity, and all the time new improvements are being discovered which may make your standard, when you finally do begin to turn it out wholesale, hopelessly out of date. Undoubtedly the Americans will be able to greatly increase the aeroplane fleets of the Allies immediately, but I see little chance of 50,000 or 100,000 airships arriving in France until about the time the American soldiers are ready to cross the water. Standardisation and efficiency certainly work wonders, but they cannot be expected to work miracles, as so many people seem to imagine.

The Trentino Drive Begins.

Within the next few weeks we may, I think, look for a formidable enemy offensive against Italy. The signs are already pointing that way. We are becoming accustomed to the preliminary cables which usually herald a great Austrian effort, whether in the Trentino or on the Isonzo

front. First of all we are told that the Italians have carried out a brilliant offensive on the Asiago plateau. They took Mount Ortigara, a position dominating the Sugana Valley, which cuts through the Dolomites to Trent, and captured the Agnella Pass. The Austrians sustained terrific losses. This from Rome, which a few days later reported desperate and *futile* enemy attempts to retake this important mount, and then fell silent. Next come Vienna messages, intercepted by Admiralty wireless, which tell of the recapture of Ortigara, and of the driving of the Italians out of the last of their positions in the Sugana Valley. Many prisoners and guns are claimed. Rome is officially still silent on the matter, but correspondents there tell of demands for a more vigorous policy, and the Ministry is obviously in trouble. Reference is made in neutral cables and correspondents' reports to the massing of troops in the Trentino, and the dissatisfaction concerning this which is being expressed in Italy. The weather continues severe. Everywhere in Europe this winter has lasted for an unprecedented time. Even yet the snow lies in the higher

passes of the Trentino Alps, but with the summer is coming an enemy advance, that seems certain. If, indeed, an offensive does develop, we must look for a most formidable effort. The attempt to drive down from the Trentino would not be made at all if not in tremendous force. To attempt, and fail, would be fatal to enemy plans: therefore we may be perfectly certain that the Austrians will take every care to avoid failure this time. I showed, in our last number, that a drive into northern Italy must immediately affect the Balkan situation, for the Italians are now taking a considerable share in the doings on the unquiet peninsula.

Another Try at Constantinople?

This brings us to a consideration of the position there. The Allies have enlisted Greece on their side by occupying the country. They can now operate freely where they will. It is perfectly obvious that some serious effort must be made to create a new front which will occupy Germans now that the Russian war theatre has been temporarily closed. If Germany could mass all her forces in the west, even with American help it would seem impossible to drive them across the Rhine. A diversion must be made somewhere. The only place where it can be made is in the Balkans, and there, of course, the object would be to cut the connection between Berlin and Constantinople, isolate the Turk, and crush the Bulgar. Once it were done the route from the Ægean to the Black Sea would be available, and troops could be sent to Russia to reopen the campaign against Germany in the east. Now that Greece has decided to throw in her lot with the Allies, it is possible that the Bulgarians may attempt to possess themselves of Salonika, but that place should be perfectly safe in our keeping. Still, the settling of the Grecian difficulty must quickly be followed by notable events in the Balkans. The country is, however, exceedingly difficult to operate in; the front is small and the enemy will be able to use Bulgars and Turks for the most part for the fighting there.

The Future of Syria.

It is reported that Italians have reinforced our army, which suffered a serious check before Gaza. This is rather surprising, as the Italians have no pretensions to Judea, which is regarded by the French as

their particular sphere of influence. During the last year, however, there has been considerable talk in Great Britain concerning the absolute need of protecting the Suez Canal by annexing Judea. This suggestion has not been very favourably received in France, where the papers insist that *il nous faut la Syrie integrale*, meaning that there must be no division of Syria by the establishment of a British protectorate over Palestine. This French position is taken up chiefly on historical grounds, for Palestine is the poorest part of Syria, has no large towns, no natural harbours. It was, however, here that the French knights so distinguished themselves during the Crusades, and here that a Frenchman, Baudoin of Flanders, founded the Kingdom of Jerusalem. The French want Palestine for sentimental reasons, the British for practical ones.

Turkey and the German Colonies.

Lloyd George, in his speech last night, struck a most hopeful note. He admitted that the Russian upheaval had ended all chance of a definite decision being reached this year, but declared his confidence that Russia would emerge stronger than ever. He holds that Britain has saved the situation, "but for our great efforts catastrophe would have overtaken the democracies of the world." Our army, he said, was invincible, and cannot now be beaten. That is becoming increasingly obvious, but can it win positive victories as well as remain unbeaten itself? Mesopotamia, he said, can never be restored to the blasting tyranny of the Turk. Armenia, too, must be liberated. The Germans, we have to remember, though, are as anxious as are we to develop Mesopotamia. They wanted to do this before the war, but Great Britain did not desire to have Germans so close to India, and it is a lamentable fact that the reason why Mesopotamia has remained under the retrograde rule of the Turk is because of the jealousies between the Great Powers of Europe. Mr. Bonar Law has officially declared that we shall never give back the German colonies, but Mr. Lloyd George is not so emphatic. He says that "their people's desires and wishes must be the dominant factor. They need a gentler rule than that of the German," but how, one wonders, are we to ascertain their wishes in the matter. Hardly by referendum! The Prime Minister went out of his way to deliver a panegyric upon the

magnificent work which was being done by the King. His great audience cheered and cheered again, in wild enthusiasm, and sang the National Anthem. In view of the tottering thrones in Europe, Lloyd George's reference and the people's reply are not without significance.

M. Venizelos Takes Charge.

M. Jonnart, who is virtually dictator of Greece, has deported many prominent Grecian statesmen and soldiers who had shown leanings towards Germany—it is said they have been sent to France or Algeria—and has sent others to certain specified towns in Greece itself. The French troops have entirely occupied Thessaly, and are charging themselves with the direction of the reaping of the harvest. We hear no word, over the cable, concerning royalist opposition to the Allied occupation, which speaks well for the self-control of the somewhat fiery Greek. One of the conditions insisted on by the Allies, some months ago, was that the Greek army should be sent across the Corinth Canal to Morea. The soldiers were in due course sent there, but one of the first actions of M. Jonnart was to bring them over the Canal again! Meanwhile the Prime Minister, M. Zaimis, who objected to summoning the Parliament, elected on June 13th, 1915, and opposed the occupation of Athens by French troops, resigned, and M. Venizelos was asked to form a new government. This he did, thereby again proving that he is an exceedingly brave man. Ex-King Constantine went to Switzerland, and experienced an exceedingly hostile reception at Lugano, which is in the Italian district. The Italians have now occupied the whole of the Epirus, and a good deal of Southern Albania. They have declared a protectorate over the country, and, in view of the feelings of the Albanians towards our Ally, it is not at all surprising to learn that Essad Pasha—the famous Essad Bey of the Balkan wars—has strongly protested against the assumption of overlordship on the part of King Victor. There is, as yet, no sign of the looked for advance from Salonika; in fact, only retirements have been chronicled. These were made necessary owing to the hot weather making the narrow valleys of Vardar district too unhealthy to live in. The army of Venizelos has apparently left Salonika, and is now in Greece proper, a portion of it, indeed, has arrived in Athens. Presumably M. Venizelos and M. Jonnart will rule Greece between them,

till the end of the war, King Alexander being little more than a figurehead.

Democratising Austria.

There have been many changes in the political world in Austria-Hungary, but none of them are likely to make a great deal of difference. Parliament is sitting in Vienna, and the Czech deputies appear to have more or less held up all business, demanding immediate independence. The Poles of Galicia were promised autonomy soon after the war began, and are now clamouring for it. Their Representatives stand like the small boy in the middle of the see-saw, and hold the balance between the Slavs and the Teutons. In alliance with the Czechs and other Slavs, they are apparently demanding autonomy all round, and it is possible that they may to some extent win their desire. If Bohemia, Galicia, Bosnia, Croatia, Moravia and other provinces inhabited for the most part by Slavs, were given a considerable measure of self-government, the Emperor of Austria would have granted the subject races in this Empire what the Allies are fighting to win them, and that particular object having been attained there would be less to fight for. But whilst it is gratifying to hear of the troubles in Austria they ought not to cause us to expect the break up of that Empire or to look for a speedy conclusion of a separate peace with the Allies. The British Socialists, by the way, consider that the democratisation of Austria is the most important of all the things we are striving for. Sidney Low has a most informing article in *The Nineteenth Century* on the Austrian question, a short review of which will be found on page 43.

In Russia.

There is little to add to what I wrote in our last number concerning Russia. Prince Lvoff is still Prime Minister, and his coalition Government still coalesces. Kerensky is said to be down in the Caucasus interviewing the army there. The advanced Socialists have suffered a defeat in the Council of Workmen and Soldiers representatives. The army is said to be straining at the leash, and here and there small actions are reported from the front. Constant rumours are current that peace has been made between Russia and Germany, but these are obviously false. There is no central authority in Russia at present which can either make peace or make war. It is conceivable that one or more of the little republics which have set themselves up,



THE SENATE HOUSE, PETROGRAD, WITH THE FAMOUS STATUE OF PETER THE GREAT IN THE FOREGROUND.

This is not where the Duma meets, for when first a Representative Assembly was granted to the people, it was thought of so little importance that it was housed in a building—the Taurida Palace—at some distance from the centre of the town. It stands in a pleasant part, with a lake behind it, and suggests less a Parliamentary than a historical museum, and was built by Catherine II., for Potemkin, her favourite, and first Governor-General of the conquered Ukraine Provinces.

especially in the Baltic Province, may have concluded a "separate peace," but that can have no effect whatever on the general situation. The announcement, some time ago, that Russian aeroplanes had dropped bombs on Riga has given the impression that that town is now in enemy possession. If it is, no word has come through concerning its capture, and there could be no possible object in suppressing such information. Therefore we may assume that the before-mentioned cable should have read "German," and not "Russian" aeroplanes. The only thing which raises some doubt in the mind is that they were said to have done great damage, which German aircraft seldom do—in the cables. A sensation was caused by the disclosure of negotiations between Germany and Russia, through the channel of M. Hoffmann, a member of the Swiss Federal Council. The Swiss Government immediately disowned all responsibility, and M. Hoffmann resigned his seat. This appears to have been the first determined attempt on the part of a neutral to bring about peace between the belligerents. As, however, it aimed at a peace between Germany and Russia only it was naturally regarded by the Allies as a hostile and reprehensible act. The Swiss Federal Council accepted M. Hoffmann's resignation, but expressed its belief in the purity of his sentiments.

An Extraordinary Ballot.

The British Government was anxious that Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Jowett should go to Russia in response to the invitation of the Russian Socialists, but the Seaman's and Fireman's Union refused to permit them to leave England. A ballot was taken amongst the members, and permission was refused by 1,000,000 votes to 200,000. That is what the cable says, but we may be pardoned if we entertain grave doubts about the figures. First of all, even in Australia, where the machinery for taking a ballot of Union members is highly perfected, it is not possible to get the papers printed, sent out, returned, and counted in two or three days, yet that was apparently done in this case. Then the particular Union in question happens to be a small one. If it has 100,000 members I should be greatly surprised, yet the voting is said to be 1,000,000 to 200,000! Presumably, the figures got mixed in cabling. A further request by the Government that the two Members of Parliament might be allowed to sail was refused, despite a declaration that such refusal would further complicate the Russian situation. It is said that the Russian Government has requested that a conference of all the Allies should be held, but though such a gathering is to meet, it is now denied that it comes together at the initiative of Russia.

Alas! the Poor Neutral.

I have often had occasion to touch on the terrible position of the neutrals, especially those whose territory marched with that of the belligerents. Of all the little peoples, the position of the Dutch is probably the worst. In former numbers some account has been given of the manner in which Great Britain has induced the Netherlands' Government to undertake that at least half of the exportable produce of the country went to Great Britain, where, as also stated, it is paid for at a price determined, not by Holland, but by the British authorities. The working of the methods used has been again illustrated by the potato trouble reported a couple of days ago. The new crop is just beginning to come in, but Great Britain has arranged that none of it may be exported to Germany, until 12,000 tons of old potatoes were sent to England. These were due from last year on the 50 per cent. basis. Under pressure from Germany, the Dutch authorities announced that they proposed to send a quarter of this supply to our enemies. Experience goes to show that they would be paid almost as much for the 3000 tons they proposed to send to Germany as for the 9000 tons they were exporting to England; but apparently German pressure brought about the abstraction of the 3000 tons, not the enhanced prices. Great Britain promptly objected,

demanding the replacement of the 3000 tons under threat of confiscation of Dutch ships in Allied harbours, and stoppage of grain supplies. Germany, on the other hand, threatens to stop export of coal to Holland if potatoes are not forthcoming. The Dutch are in very truth between the devil and the deep sea! Still it is unlikely that 3000 tons of potatoes will force Holland to go to war, but we have here a typical illustration of the delicate situation of neutrals who can be "squeezed" by both groups of belligerents. Much the same situation obtains in Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, all requiring grain from overseas and coal from Germany to sustain their industries, and, indeed, their very lives.

Unrest in Spain.

The upheaval in Russia has been followed by a wave of unrest throughout Europe. In every country, belligerent and neutral, the people are showing signs of desiring to govern themselves, and the thrones of kings and queens are becoming daily more unsafe, their occupants more apprehensive. The immediate cause of the sullen murmurings in Spain, which might at any time quicken to cries for revolution, is the food question. In countries where kings have real power they are in real danger. In Spain, for instance, it is quite possible that Alfonso may lose his



THE FAMOUS WINTER PALACE, BUILT BY CATHERINE II.

Was the official residence of the Tsar in Petrograd, although he seldom resided there, preferring Tsarskoe Selo, not far from the capital.

throne, although the present movement in his country is not directed against his person. The instigators of the Russian *coup d'état* hoped to have been able to bring about a reform in the methods of government whilst still retaining the Tsar as nominal head of affairs; but they soon found that the forces they had awakened were too strong for them, and demanded the entire abolition of the monarchy. So it may be in Spain, where, as in Russia, the revolutionary movement came to a head owing to shortage of food. Those who, seeing it come, have put themselves at the head of it, may—probably do—desire to maintain the king on his throne, but they may find it impossible to control the monster they have unleashed. The war itself has probably little to do with the Spanish business. None of the parties concerned wish to plunge their country into the bloody maelstrom. We have not here pro-Germans and anti-Germans, but hungry men and women determined to get food and supplies, and furious against the Government which has been unable to secure these for them. Behind this urgent demand is the old desire for a republican administration, and it remains to be seen how strong this is, to be seen whether the present discomfort develops into a revolution which will send the king from his throne and bring yet another republic into being in Europe.

The Good Angel of Europe.

It is perfectly evident from the comments which are being made here on the Spanish situation that few folk have any idea of the debt of gratitude owed by all belligerent peoples to Alfonso, of whom they speak so slightly. Yet there are those who do not hesitate to say that "the Good Angel of Europe" is not too good a title for the young monarch. The king has personally charged himself with the direction of one of the greatest humanitarian efforts brought forth by the war. He has taken up with vigour the task of allaying the apprehension of the families of missing soldiers, and has evolved an elaborate system of getting to know the fate of those who figure in those terrible lists of "missing." He works through the Spanish Embassy at Berlin, and it is largely owing to his efforts that distracted parents in England, in France, in Australia, finally learn the fate of their loved ones. The king receives personal letters and cables in great quantities daily, and spends much time himself

seeing that the information desired is quickly obtained. But he does not content himself merely with tracing missing soldiers; he has again and again personally urged the pardoning of condemned persons. He had secured during the first two years of war 44 pardons, mostly from death sentences, the majority of the prisoners being women spies. He has himself arranged the repatriation of 5000 seriously wounded soldiers, and through his organisation has managed to locate 30,000 civilians in occupied territories, for their distracted families. More than 200,000 missing soldiers have been traced, but in a much larger number of cases, unfortunately, the inquiry has established the death of the missing soldier, and in a still greater number no trace at all has been found. This work deals with more individual tragedies than any other branch of activity created by the war. The majority of the appeals sent to the king are from poor folk, but that apparently only stimulates him to greater efforts. These appeals of mothers and children are arranged alphabetically in huge cases, and make a veritable library of agony. To relieve this distress has been King Alfonso's earnest attempt for the last two years.

China and Japan.

The situation in China attracts very little attention for our eyes are so focused on the colossal conflict in Europe that we can see nothing else. Nevertheless it would be well worth while devoting some thought to the events now going on in the Celestial Republic. Under Yuan Shi Kai it looked as if China would settle down to quiet progress, but always, just when everything appears to be going all right, something or other occurs to block the way and back the country goes to a state worse than the first. Once more revolution and civil strife are ripe, and it would not be altogether unexpected if some other Power had to be called in to restore order and re-establish stable conditions. We do not have far to seek to find that Power which could take the matter in hand, would, in fact, be glad so to do. After the capture of Kiau Chau I pointed out to my readers that Japan had now entered into the inheritance of Germany within the Celestial Republic, and suggested that the Mikado was no more likely than the Kaiser to terminate the lease of the port or to abandon to China those concessions on the Shantung Peninsula which had been granted

to the Germans. Japan long ago frankly insisted on the transference to her of all the German concessions and leases, and is likely to stay permanently in Kiau Chau. Already Japanese are railway building in the peninsula, and have taken charge of the rich iron and coal mines thereon. Of course this is a perfectly legitimate thing for Japan to do, and none of the other Powers could raise any objection. As I pointed out at the time, we must expect Japanese influence in China to be much greater now and in future. The position is quite simple. Five Powers had concerned themselves with the general control of China. All of them had secured concessions and ports from her, and we may assume that Russia, Great Britain, France, Japan and Germany had all an equal say in matters Chinese. By the taking of Kiau Chau the Japanese eliminated Germany, and occupied her place, with the result that instead of having only a one-fifth share in the control of China, they won a two-fifths share, as against the one-fifth of Russia, Great Britain and France. Now Russia renounces all desire of mixing further in the Chinese business, and Japan is obviously falling heir to her influence and possessions, will therefore have a three-fifths say in Celestial matters, to the two-fifths Great Britain and France have between them. In other words, we are fast approaching the time, may, indeed, have already reached it when Japan assumes the role of guardian and protector of China.

A Standing Army 6,000,000 Strong!

We have the Japanese assurance that whatever has been done has the cordial approval of her Allies, must therefore look upon this growing influence of the Mikado in China with rejoicing. The advantages to an eager Japan and a willing China—if, indeed, the latter is willing—are obvious. Japan needs many things, coal and iron, cotton and rice, copper, and other raw products; these she can get in prodigious quantities in China. Japan wants a market for the goods she is manufacturing in increasing quantities—she will find it in China. Japan wants land and room for her people to expand, and yet the experiences of Formosa and Korea go to show that the Mikado's subjects prefer industrial to agricultural expansion. Amongst the teeming millions of China they will have ample scope for their trading abilities and their directing genius. On the

other hand China wants a stable government created; she requires re-organising; her huge resources need developing, and all these things the energetic Japanese can do for her. If Japan throws her wing over China there will be no fear of the country breaking up and affording golden opportunities to those who are anxious to secure concessions and spheres of interest. A Japanese-managed China will be an efficient and powerful China before long. A China of gigantic possibilities, immense resources and a great army. The development of her untouched mineral deposits, the tapping of her coal supplies, and the introduction of western methods in the control of her waterways, canals and roads, and the opening up of the country by railways will, in time, make of her one of the most formidable powers in the world. Hitherto the Chinese have looked down on the soldier and have scorned the idea of a large permanent army. Let us hope they will preserve that attitude towards war, and towards the belligerent imposition of their desires on others. One almost trembles at the mere idea of a conscript army in China, where the annual quota of men reaching military age is reckoned to be over 2,000,000, which on the three-year-service basis would mean 6,000,000 men constantly under arms! Fortunate it is for the world that the Chinese are a peace-loving, not a military people. If China is to awake and take her place as one of the great forces of the world, we cannot but rejoice that the Power which acts as her mentor is one between which and Great Britain such very cordial relations exist. The future development of China is a matter which will demand the greatest exertions on the part of Japan, will keep her fully occupied for many years to come.

The Loss of the "Mongolia."

The increase in the number of submarine victims is maintained, unfortunately, although this week is not quite so bad as last, when 27 ships over 1600 tons were sunk, and 5 under 1600. The *Mongolia* will not figure in these weekly lists, as she ran on a mine, was not sent to the bottom by a submarine. The disaster which has overwhelmed this fine vessel demonstrates how exceedingly dangerous it will be to travel the oceans for many a long day after the war is ended. A very heavy Australian mail went to the bottom with the ship. It is certainly surprising why some effort is not made to enclose the mails in watertight bags



ON THE TIGRIS.

The Turkish gunboat *Marmariss*, destroyed by our river flotilla.

and stow them where they could be easily thrown overboard, or would float away when the ship sank. At any rate, the registered mail could be made safe in this way. As it is, some of the bags have already been washed ashore, but a little forethought and trouble should make it possible to save the mails on any torpedoed or mined mail boat. We in Australia are becoming more and more isolated, and the withdrawal of the P. & O. liners from the regular service will further deplete our means of communication with the outside world. The *Mongolia* carried quantities of British publications—these mail boats always do—and next month therefore, there will be a dearth of English magazines and other periodicals. With the reduced service between England and Australia this lack is likely to be still more felt during the next few months.

The Tchinnovnik of the Foreign Office.

A most extraordinary letter has been published by the Germans. It was found by them in the mail bags on a steamer which one of their submarines captured. The removal of these bags, according to Mr. Balfour, was an illegal action. This is rather an extraordinary statement to come from

the Minister who has written so many official notes to the United States on the subject of what the Americans called our illegal seizure, retention and opening of neutral mails to Germany! This particular letter was written by Lord Hardinge to Sir George Buchanan, British Ambassador at Petrograd, and refers in slighting terms to Mr. McKenna, to M. Bratiano and others. Its most interesting passages, though, touch on the negotiations which were then proceeding with Roumania with the object of inducing her to enter the war. It has been freely stated that Roumania was not urged to plunge into the struggle at the particular time she did, and that she has only herself to blame for the fate which overwhelmed her. Lord Hardinge's letter shows quite clearly that the Allies were doing their very best to induce Roumania to join them, for he deplored the retirement of M. Sazonoff "during the progress of the negotiations with reference to Roumania's entering the war," and referred to M. Brantiano as one of the most evasive fellows, "even at this moment he is inclined to wriggle out on the alleged pretext that our offensive at Salonika is not everything which he desires." Sub-

sequent events have shown that M. Bratiano had every justification for believing that there would be no offensive from Salonika to support the Roumanian armies when they attacked Austria. Exception is taken to the publication of this precious letter on the ground that it was done to make mischief! The making of mischief in war time, with the object of causing trouble between their allied foes, is one of the main functions of diplomatists. The publicity given to this letter and the finding of the Mesopotamian Commission are likely to cause the position of Permanent Under-Secretary to the Foreign Office to become vacant. Lord Hardinge is a typical bureaucrat, who, I remember, used to be referred to by my father as the Tchivovnik of the Foreign Office, whose malevolent influence was ever exerted against democracy, and who again and again damaged the better impulses of Sir Edward Grey.

Mr. Hughes Sticks to His Pledge.

Mr. Hughes' long awaited utterance concerning recruiting and the measures he proposes to take to win the war, was delivered at Sydney last night. It is chiefly notable for its reassertion of the pledge the Prime Minister gave at Bendigo during the election that conscription would not be introduced without a referendum, for the declaration that, in the opinion of the Government, the time had not yet arrived when national safety demanded conscription, for the sudden conversion of the Prime Minister to the belief that half the recruits deemed necessary would suffice, and, for the entire lack of any lead as to how Australia was to gird up her loins and set to work to win the war. It will be remembered that, owing to the strong declarations made by the various prominent men in the country to the effect that the election of the Win-the-War Party would mean the introduction of conscription, the Prime Minister was goaded into a positive declaration to the contrary at Bendigo. It is worth noting, however, that this declaration would not have been made had the anti-conscriptionists not forced Mr. Hughes' hand by their assertions that the only thing the Win-the-War Party could do, more than the previous Government had done, to win the war was to bring in conscription. Thus it came about that, although the antis lost the election, they actually won their point and compelled all the Nationalist leaders, with one notable exception, to commit themselves against conscription. This com-

mitment was so very positive in almost every case that it is impossible for the present Government to go back on the Bendigo declaration, and until things get a good deal worse than they are to-day, there should be no chance of a referendum on the question being put to the people. Mr. Hughes states definitely that things are not yet bad enough to warrant an appeal to the people on the subject, and do not all our experts assure us that things are already improving, that victory is near? This being so, the nightmare of conscription should have finally taken its departure—but has not done so.

Inaccurate Calculations Compelled Referendum.

During the last referendum campaign I wrote a good deal on the subject of conscription, and showed that in my opinion it was not needed to raise the men required. I pointed out that the entire case for compulsory service as put before the nation was built upon the alleged need for 32,500 recruits in September, and 16,500 a month thereafter, which reinforcements, to my reasoning, appeared to be out of all proportion to the number of men actually in the field. I set forth at that time that if England had to find reinforcements at a similar rate she would require no less than 4,000,000 new recruits to keep the 2,000,000 soldiers she already had in the field up to full strength for twelve months. Yet the referendum was put to the people solely because they failed to raise 32,500 men in the thirty days of September. Had they managed to scrape them up, the referendum would not have been taken at all. But the task set was obviously an impossible one. Mr. Hughes tells us that 7000 recruits a month are needed now, not 16,500. The figure 32,500 for September was arrived at because during June, July and August, the number of recruits obtained was 16,000 fewer than the number said to be required. This number was therefore added to the monthly September quota of 16,500. On the 7000 basis, however, the actual shortages in June and July were 625 and 830 men respectively. During the 23 days of August, which had elapsed when Mr. Hughes made his momentous speech, the shortage on the proportion of 7000 a month was 624. A total shortage for the three months of 2079. If we add this to the 7000 required for September, we get the number of recruits.

—at the revised rate—which had to be raised if conscription were to be avoided.

The Conscription Edifice Collapses.

Mr. Hughes in his famous speech at Newcastle, on the eve of the taking of the referendum vote, stated that from August 28th to October 25th the number of recruits was 18,000. For the whole of September and October the official figures were 20,594. There is a general consensus of opinion that the referendum killed recruiting, and certainly the enlistments during November dropped to 5066, in December, to 2617. During January, February and March the average was maintained at 5000 per month. The average for the last six months has, however, been 4750, or 2250 too few per month. Every endeavour must be made to push the enlistments up to 7000 monthly, and as long as that number is forthcoming we may rest happy in knowing that our five divisions in France are being properly reinforced. So long as the 7000 are forthcoming there need be no lamentation that Australia is not doing everything that "honour and safety demands." Those who have so strenuously advocated conscription, on the ground that without re-

sorting to compulsory methods Australia would entirely fail to do her duty, and the lads in the trenches would have to fight on unrelieved, have had that ground entirely cut away from under their feet by last night's statement of the Prime Minister. The whole case for conscription, in so far as it was built up on the 16,500 recruits a month foundation, has collapsed, and, in addition we now know that the failure to raise 32,500 men last September did not justify putting the referendum to the people.

A False Thesis.

I do not for a moment suggest that the need for raising the 16,500 monthly quotas was not honestly held to be absolutely imperative by the leaders of the conscription movement. We had to have compulsory service, we were told, because it alone enabled us to get the recruits required, and my objection to conscription has been based throughout on the ground that it was not needed to get the men, for it was utterly inconceivable that 16,500 recruits were wanted every month. If once, then, that figure were proved to be too high, the whole edifice built up by the conscrip-



THE SOMME ADVANCE.

Clearing the way for our advancing troops.

tionists in their referendum campaign crumbled away. Australia has kept her armies at full strength by voluntary recruiting. Her name has not "become mud," as was prophesied owing to her refusal to force men to go and fight, whether they wanted to or not. The flag has been kept flying, and Australia is in no wise disgraced, though she still prefers to send volunteers rather than conscripts to the war. A great effort is to be made to raise the 7000 each month. The bringing in of conscription, according to the Prime Minister's pledge, is contingent upon the state of affairs in Europe rather than upon the ability or inability of the country to raise a definite number of recruits monthly; but that is not a matter which need trouble us. We are concerned only that the army in France, or wherever it may be, whether 100,000 strong or less, should be properly reinforced. To do that Mr. Hughes now tells us we have to find 230 volunteers every day.

Canada and Australia.

In this connection it is worth restating the position between Canada and Australia. In our sister Dominion conscription is on the eve of being introduced, despite the strong opposition of a certain section of the Liberals. We are told that if Canada has conscription and New Zealand has conscription, Australia, in very shame, ought to adopt conscription also. But Canada is resorting to compulsion because she cannot get the recruits required to keep her army up to full strength, an army, however, which is no larger than the one we have sent overseas. There are five Canadian divisions at the front, and five Australian. Yet the population of Canada is 7,200,000, and that of the Commonwealth is 5,000,000 only. The introduction of conscription into Canada is a somewhat surprising move, for one would certainly imagine that Canadians, more

than the men of any other Dominion, could be of greater assistance to Great Britain on the farm than on the battlefield. There is a world shortage of wheat. Canada is close to England, and if she could greatly increase the area under grain that would surely be of the very first importance to Great Britain. At home they are bringing soldiers back from the trenches to cultivate the land; in Canada they are apparently going to take men by force off the land to go to the trenches. It seems wrong, somehow!

We Should Know Each Other Better.

The curious misapprehension and lack of accurate information which prevails in the different Dominions about each other was well illustrated the other day in a debate in the Parliament House at Ottawa. There it was solemnly suggested that Canada should follow the lead of Australia and confiscate all war profits! Such a lot of talk about what we were going to do has been indulged in that we find our wordy proposals taken seriously elsewhere, and others assuming that what we have so long talked of we must by now have done! Canada, by the way, put on a 25 per cent. war profits-tax soon after the war started, but talked so little about it that few people here know that Canada led the way. We had almost come to believe that in time we were going to do that ourselves! When Mr. Hughes passed through our sister Dominion on his way to England he constantly referred to the 300,000 men Australia had raised. Of course he used this figure only as a round one, for at that time our enlistments had barely passed the 250,000 mark; but the Canadians stupidly assumed that no less than 300,000 men had joined the Australian army, and used that figure to whip up their own recruiting campaign! It is indeed a pity we do not know more of each other.

REPATRIATION OF OUR SOLDIERS.

Article IV. on this subject has been held over pending the announcement of the result of the Conference now being held in Melbourne between Senator Millen and the Ministers of Land of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP MY COUNTRY?

The answer for those who cannot themselves enlist remains the same as before. Buy War-Saving Certificates. Until the Government indicates how else we can help, no other answer can be given.

HISTORY IN CARICATURE.

Oh, wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us.—Burns.

Neutrals naturally see most of the game—and show it in their cartoons. Their artists not infrequently "touch the spot" in a manner which would be impossible for the belligerent pencil. *The Nebelspalter*, of Zurich, has had many good cartoons on the war. That reproduced on this page, indicating how Europe is being crushed beneath the terrible load of debt, is excellent.

The American papers are naturally chiefly concerned with the entrance of the United States into the war, but cartoonists of other nationalities are also engaged with the same subject. The Italian picture, "America's Latest Reply" quite cleverly makes use of Wilson's somewhat prominent jaw to carry a great gun.

The Baltimore American makes a very good portrait of the Kaiser on the stone which America is helping to roll away from the grave of freedom.

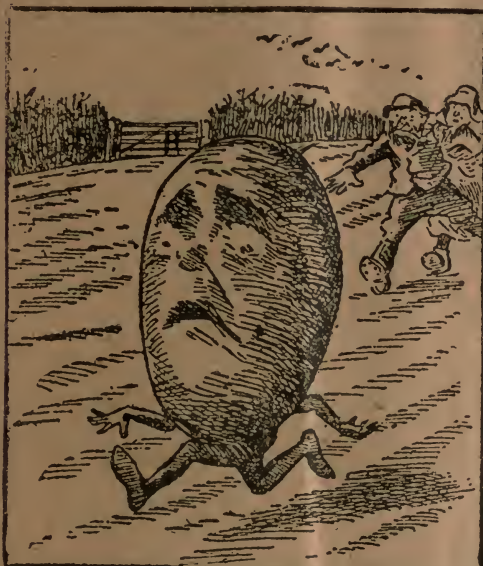


American.]

[Baltimore.

IN FREEDOM'S NAME.

Helping to roll away the stone.



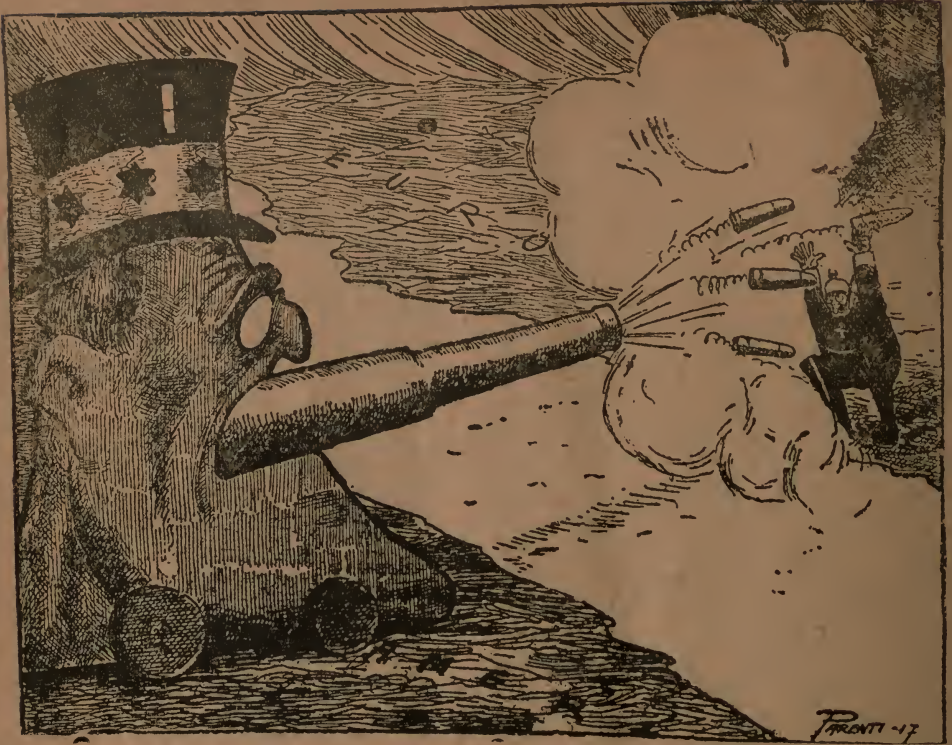
Westminster Gazette.]

A POTATO DRAMA.

[London.

DESPAIR,
The Last Potato.

SAFETY,
"Ha, ha! I am a Seed Potato!"



[H. 420.]

AMERICA'S LATEST REPLY.

[Florence.]

THE KAISER: "Donnerwetter! This is a new kind of American note!"

Many of the cartoons in the United States touch on the Russian question, and the majority of them take the line adopted in *The Providence Journal*, and hold that the revolution in Russia has enabled the people to burst the fetters of bureaucracy and achieve freedom.

The position of the poor neutral is constantly made the subject of cartoons in all manner of papers. *The Grand Forks Herald* shows Holland standing on the end of a plank down which the British lion is furiously stalking. Below swim the German submarine sharks. *De Amsterdammer* shows the figure of Holland treading the narrow path of neutrality, which leads between the precipice of want and the abyss of war.

To show the Kaiser as a leper has become quite popular in cartoon papers the



[Journal.]

[Providence.]
INTO THE LIGHT.

The War's Greatest Work.



Simplicissimus.]

[Munich.

A PICTURE OF THE FUTURE.

"Your Majesties, I ask you to take note of the fact that you must prove the possession of 50 dollars if you wish to emigrate to America."



De Amsterdammer.]

GERMANY SEEKS ALLIES.

According to information received, the Kaiser has appointed Carranza to be General of the Guard, while Carranza has nominated the Kaiser as Chief of the Brigands.



Le Rire.]

[Paris.

WILLIAM THE CHEMIST.

WILLIAM: "Look at my people! What ails them?"

SCIENCE: "You used me for the purpose of killing; I am having my revenge."

(Food substitutes have caused numerous epidemics in Germany.)



Simplicissimus.]

[Munich.

ANOTHER EFFORT TO SEPARATE THE ALLIES.

"While England does the shouting France loses the teeth."



[De Telegraaf.]

[Amsterdam.]

WILLIAM: "What are these?"

HUN GENERAL: "Why, they are only Belgians who refuse to work voluntarily in our munition factories!"



The Passing Show.]

THE LEPER.

[London.]

world over. *The Passing Show* publishes the best executed drawing on this subject. Some time ago *Simplicissimus* published a cartoon showing the Kings of Serbia and Montenegro contemplating emigration to the United States, and President Wilson reminding them that they must be possessed of at least £10 before they would be allowed to enter that country. The King of Greece might join this dethroned couple!

Le Rire rejoices in the fact that food substitutes have caused numerous epidemics in Germany, and that famine is likely to bring the German nation to its knees.

De Amsterdamer, on the strength of the report that the Kaiser had approached Carranza with the object of establishing an alliance between Mexico and Germany, indicates how these two would look if they changed costumes.

F.C.G. has had several humorous cartoons upon the food shortage in Great Britain. Two of these are reproduced on page 25.

Lustige Blätter reports a great British victory, as shown on page 26.



De Amsterdamer.]

THE NARROW PATH OF NEUTRALITY.

The way becomes still more difficult!
(The word on a level with her head means "Want." The word lower down means "War.")



The Westminster Gazette.

[London.

TRYING IT ON.

THE KAISER: "How does this Mexican uniform suit me, Bethmann-Hollweg?"

BETHMANN-HOLLWEG: "Admirably, your Majesty! Your All-Highness might easily be mistaken for General Villa!"

THE KAISER (indignantly): "Carranza!"



Westminster Gazette.]

[London.

HARD LINES.

THE PHEASANT: "Fancy reducing me to the level of a rabbit, just as if I were ground vermin!"

THE FOX: "And to talk about exterminating me!"

[Farmers are to have the right to shoot Pheasants on their farms, and Foxes even may be shot.]



Lustige Blätter.]

GREAT BRITISH "VICTORY."

[Berlin.

The British have just "conquered" their dislike of food tickets. A great procession will celebrate it in London.

ALBANIA AND ITS PEOPLE.

"Albania is a country within sight of Italy, which is less known than the interior of America."—Gibbon.

The great historian thus described Albania in the eighteenth century, and his description is still absolutely true. Certainly we know a good deal more about this Balkan land and its people, but since Gibbon wrote the unknown interior of America has been opened up, settled, and now supports a great population. Albania to-day, though somewhat better known than it was two centuries ago, is much in the same state as it was in Gibbon's time. There has been little or no development. Ancient customs remain. The people are no better understood now than they were then. Yet to arrive at any just appreciation of the vexed Balkan question we must learn something of the proud and warlike race which still dwells in exclusive seclusion among the mighty hills and deep valleys of the country known to us as Albania, and to the people themselves as Shkuperia.

A BONE OF CONTENTION.

At different times Albania has been a bone of contention between Serb and Bulgar, Venetian and Turk, Greek and Slav, but in recent years the fight over it has raged between Austria, Russia and Italy, with Greece and Serbia deeply interested parties. For the time being the Italians have won the upper hand, and already their forces are engaged in occupying, not only Southern Albania proper, but those portions of Epirus which the last Balkan war gave to Greece. The struggle between Italy and Austria for political domination of Albania has now become a military one, but though the Austrians may occupy the northern half of the country, and the Italians the southern, it by no means follows that the Albanians will tamely submit to the dictation of these great Powers, or that any military conquests of neutral or belligerent territory can be regarded as anything more than temporary.

STRATEGY, NOT ETHNOLOGY.

The war has, in truth, developed into a fight for domination of the Balkan highway to Asia Minor, and the future arrangements there will probably take little count of the wishes of Serb, Bulgar, Albanian or Greek. Despite the repeated declarations made by the Allies concerning the little peoples and the right of small nations to determine their own future, the Balkan settlement will un-

doubtedly be a strategic, not an ethnological one. If the Allies win decisively the creation of a greater Serbia is inevitable, and we may look to northern Albania falling under the control of the Serbs, whilst southern Albania, and not improbably Epirus as well, would have to submit to an Italian protectorate. A further reduction in the size of Bulgaria may confidently be anticipated—to the advantage of Roumania and Serbia—whilst the creation of a neutral state, including Constantinople and the Dardanelles, would seem inevitable, now that Russia has renounced all desire to control the waterway to the Mediterranean.

A UNITED STATES OF CENTRAL EUROPE?

On the other hand, if the Central Powers are not defeated, but peace is made whilst their armies still hold Belgium, Poland, Courland, Wallachia, Serbia, Montenegro, and much of Northern France, we may not illogically assume that an enemy undertaking to abandon all the territory occupied would be balanced by the establishment of German domination in Europe's Pandora box. Bulgaria would then be the greatest sub-power in the peninsula; Greece would be confirmed in the possession of the Epirus; an Austrian protectorate would be established over the whole of Albania, and the kingdom of Serbia would be restored under conditions which made it entirely subservient to Austria. It might not impossibly happen that Serbia and Montenegro would be absorbed in a great south Slav state, which would form a fourth partner in the Austrian Empire, or they might be re-established as two amongst a large number of semi-independent states which would go to form a sort of United States of Austria or Middle Europe.

A BARGAINING PEACE.

If, however, the Allies drive the enemy back to their own frontiers, but still fail to do more than that before peace comes, the *status quo ante bellum* in the Balkans would, in all probability, be restored by the diplomatists who settle matters round the conference table. But whilst the future intentions of the mighty warring Powers concerning the Balkans can be forecasted with some certainty, we do not know what the stubborn races who people the peninsula

will do, but we may be fairly sure that they will not remain the quiet pawns in the game of statecraft the diplomats of the more formidable belligerents would have them be. Only if one or other of the two groups of Powers secures entire control can we anticipate an entirely arbitrary settlement of the Balkan situation. If it ends in a bargaining compromise, the likes and dislikes and strength and weakness of the peoples themselves are likely to play a large part in the final settlement.

ALBANIA AND THE SECOND BALKAN WAR.

It was only when the Great Powers got to work to rearrange Balkan boundaries after the two wars which in 1912 and 1913 devastated the land, that people suddenly discovered the existence of another race in the peninsula. They had been accustomed to divide the inhabitants of Europe's Pandora box into five groups—Turks, Bulgars, Serbs, Greeks and Montenegrins. Suddenly, however, emerged a sixth—the Albanians. The victorious states—Greece, Bulgaria and Serbia—had arranged to parcel out Albania amongst themselves. Half was to go to Greece and half to Serbia, with certain concessions in the way of territory to Montenegro. This the Great Power refused to allow, and it was this refusal more than anything else which brought about the second Balkan war, that between Greece and Serbia on the one side, and Bulgaria on the other. The quarrel this time arose over the altered division of the spoils reft from the Turk, made necessary owing to the Powers' interdict concerning the carving up of Albania. Blocked by this action of the European Concert from getting an outlet to the sea, Serbia naturally turned to Salonika, and undertook to uphold Greece's claims to the port—which was actually the spoil of the Bulgars—on condition that Serbian products and imports might have free use of it. Had Serbia been allowed to possess herself of Durazzo there would have been no second Balkan war, and Bulgaria would have remained in possession of Salonika, for unsupported by the Serbs the Greeks would not have ventured to try conclusions with the formidable armies of Tsar Ferdinand on the field of battle.

A DIVIDED CONCERT.

The war having been brought on by Albania the onlooking world began to be interested in the inhabitants of the almost unknown mountainous land which stretches along the eastern shore of the Adriatic from Scutari to Corfu. Were these folk power-

ful enough to thwart the ambitions of victorious Serbs and Greeks, were they in very truth a distinct race of men whom it would be a crime to thrust beneath the yoke of either Serbia or Greece? A separate race they are, hating both their northern and southern neighbours, but though fierce fighters and hardy mountaineers, they could not have defied the Balkan League alone. They owed their escape from being thrust beneath a rule detestable to them to the fact that they were useful pawns in the Balkan game which was being so subtly played between Russia, Austria and Italy. Had it rested with Russia alone Serbia would have been allowed to retain her Albanian conquests. Greece would have been helped to keep the entire Epirus. But Austria dreaded the prospect of a powerful Serbian kingdom at her door, for the greater Serbia became the more difficult it would be for the Austrians to rule the southern Slavs. Serbia had been kept weak by her land-locked condition, if she once got a window on the Adriatic she might soon grow strong—and therefore dangerous. Italy, too, hated the idea of a Serbia port on the Adriatic. The dream of her statesmen was to make of this an Italian sea, and the advent of a Russian-supported Serbia on the shores thereof filled her with dread.

SIR EDWARD GREY'S SCHEME.

Thus these two Powers, themselves rivals on the Adriatic, and having opposing views regarding the future of Albania, united to prevent what both regarded as a catastrophe. Austria wanted Albania for herself and Italy desired to possess it also, but for Serbia and Greece to divide it would finally extinguish their hopes in that direction altogether. England in those days was entirely unsympathetic towards the Russian desire for an outlet to an ice-free sea, and looked coldly upon the arrival of Russia's advance agent on the Adriatic, feared the establishment of a permanent Russian dominance in the Balkans as a result. Further the British Foreign Office was fully aware of the fact that the Albanians were a nation, and was seized of the hatred they felt for Slav and Greek. Sir Edward Grey therefore threw his influence into the scale on the side of Italy and Austria—with Germany hovering in the background—and propounded the scheme that finally took shape.

A PRINCIPALITY CREATED.

The Balkan League was informed that the Powers could not permit the cutting up

of Albania, which, although nominally part of the Turkish Empire, had always been virtually independent. The Turkish yoke was to be finally thrown off, but those who had made it possible to abolish it were to rest content with the Macedonian and Thracian spoils. Albania itself was to be made into a principality, and the Powers would, in due course, provide a constitution and a ruler. This fiat having gone forth the second Balkan war ensued, as I have already set out, and after it was over the Powers proceeded to delimit the frontier, and searched round for some princeling to set over these turbulent mountaineers. They created an International Board of Control, established a foreign gendarmie, and generally took the people under their wing. The crown was finally offered to Prince Frederick William of Wied, and accepted by him.

A LUCKLESS POTENTATE.

During the Balkan wars Southern Albania had declared itself independent, under Ismail Kemal, and Northern Albania speedily followed suit, under the leadership of the famous Essad Bey, after his surrender of Scutari to the Montenegrins. These two leaders agreed to accept Prince Wied as ruler, but he enjoyed little peace during his brief reign. The jealous factions fought each other, and refused to pay much attention to him. The Powers could not decide which town to make capital, and owing to differences amongst themselves failed to give the support promised. When the great war broke out, this support ceased altogether. The luckless prince was left without revenue, without an army, had to rely solely upon his own efforts and the support of his police to keep his throne. Realising the task hopeless, he threw it up a month after the outbreak of the war.

WAR AND FAMINE.

He left his country in a bad state. The crops had been very poor in 1913 and in 1914, owing to the absence of the men who were engaged in fighting the Serbs or each other, and famine threatened. The world-struggle left Albania at first in a backwater, more or less unnoticed, and certainly unhelped. Soon, though, the tide of war surged into the country, and tens of thousands of fleeing Serbs poured across the mountain tracks and so-called roads towards the Adriatic.

ITALY AND AVLONA.

Not long after the Serb migration across their country the people suffered an Aus-

trian invasion from the north, a Grecian one from the south, and an Italian one in the centre. The Italians noted the Austrian advance with consternation, and determined at all costs to possess themselves of Avlona, holding that, though a neutral, Albania was now practically a no man's land. The Greeks, troubled at the Italian seizure of Avlona, and fearing a further Roman advance southwards, themselves occupied the principal towns in the northern Epirus which the Powers had refused to allow them to take before. Italy quite naturally could not tolerate a strong power at Avlona, which is directly opposite Otranto, and only 45 miles from it, for here the Adriatic narrows ere it joins the Mediterranean. For any other naval Power to control the other side of the bottle-neck was fatal to all Italian dreams concerning the making of the Adriatic an Italian sea.

TAKING THE AVLONA HINTERLAND FOR ITALY.

The position can be likened to the Straits of Gibraltar. Great Britain holds Gibraltar and Spain holds Ceuta opposite, but Great Britain dominates the Straits just as Italy did those of Otranto whilst only Turkey was at Avlona. But if Germany had possessed herself of Ceuta our control of the entrance to the Mediterranean would have passed, or, at any rate, have been greatly impaired; and if Austria got Avlona the control of the Otranto Straits would obviously no longer remain in Italian keeping. Therefore, Italy hastily threw troops into Avlona, and set to work to fortify the place. She did nothing more for awhile, but a few months ago began to push inland. Ere long Italian troops began to reach those towns in Epirus in Grecian occupancy, and, ejecting them, took their places. There was no fighting, as Constantine was keeping his country neutral, and these Hellenic soldiers were certainly not on their own territory.

WHAT WILL THE ALBANIANS DO?

Now the Italians appear to have occupied Southern Albania from Avlona to Okrida Lake, and have also entered Greece and occupied Janina, and most of Grecian Epirus won from Turkey in the last war. The Bulgarians do not seem to have advanced much further west than Monastir; have contented themselves, it would appear, with occupying those parts of new Serbia which they regarded as their rightful spoil when the League had defeated the Turk.

Western Serbia and Northern Albania are apparently in the charge of the Austrians, though whether they hold it in force or not is unknown. Probably there is not a great number of their soldiers in Albania at present. Italy, at any rate, has taken possession of what she wanted in Albania; Austria, too, has seized the north, and, for the moment, Albania is divided into its natural segments. But the Albanians themselves have not been consulted, and will certainly not be altogether inactive witnesses of the partition of their country.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ALBANIA TO-DAY.

Albania has only become of intense international interest since it ceased to be under the nominal suzerainty of the Sultan, because, so long as Turkey controlled the Adriatic shore, it did not matter much to Italy as she had nothing at all to fear from the Ottoman navy. The presence of the Turk there blocked Serbia's expansion to the sea, and if neither Italy nor Serbia could get possession of any of Albania Austria was more or less content to leave things as they were, confining herself to increasing her influence amongst the clansmen of the north. But the moment the rule of Constantinople was ended the importance of Albania became at once apparent as I have endeavoured to set out above. This unenviable distinction has often been Albania's before, but never since the victorious Turks overran the country. During the Middle Ages this hardy people played a conspicuous part in the setting up and throwing down of rival empires, but whilst other Balkan States waxed and waned, whilst other races became submerged these hill people preserved their independence, kept themselves secluded and select, a homogeneous race.

THE TWO GREAT HATES.

They were animated during the ages by two great hates which they still cherish. The first is an intense and bitter dislike of their nearest neighbours, the Serbians, the second a detestation of the Bulgar, which is indeed shared by most of the Balkan peoples. In that unquiet peninsula the Bulgars were more hated even than the Turks, in fact the Albanians, fierce foes of all Slavs and contemptuous of the Greeks, much preferred the Turk and embraced his religion. Thus to their inborn hatred of the Slavs was added the feud between Moslem and Christian, and the Al-

banians inevitably drifted into a position of enmity with all their neighbours save only the Turks under whose banners they fought as volunteers.

ARBITRARY POWERS.

The Great Powers, at the Treaty of Berlin, took little note of the desires of the people, but arbitrarily added portions of the country to Montenegro, to Serbia, and to Greece, in order to allow of other adjustments they considered necessary. The natural part of Montenegro was Spitzza, a town peopled by Slavs closely related to the Montenegrins, but this the Powers had given to Austria along with the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. To give the Montenegrins an outlet they handed the Albanian port of Dulcigno over to the Principality. This injustice, and the loss of other lands, brought about an Albanian revolt which was suppressed by the Turks under pressure of the Powers. The immediate result of the alteration of boundaries by the Berlin diplomatists was a general shifting of the population. Albanians living in Montenegro, Serbia, and Greece, emigrated quickly into Albania proper, and the national spirit was then quickened into renewed life.

GETTING READY FOR THE SMASH.

Since the Treaty of Berlin, Albania has been the scene of propaganda work by Austria, by Italy, and—indirectly—by Russia, for it was generally assured that, ere long, the Turkish Empire in Europe would disappear and the Sick Man die. Austria has undoubtedly pursued the cleverest policy in Albania, and those who travelled through the country before the Balkan wars asserted positively that, if independence were denied them, the Albanians would unhesitatingly choose the protection of Austria, not that of Italy. The hatred of the Slavs precludes, of course, all possibility of the people quietly acquiescing in a Serbian or Russian protectorate, whilst the mere mention of the name of Greece, produces a torrent of abuse. Independence it must be or Austria, that was the undoubted feeling of the people at that time. They saw what Austria had done in Bosnia and knew that under Austrian control they would get roads and railways, would be permitted to retain their customs and language. Under Austria, at any rate, it was the general opinion they would retain their freedom.

THE MOST ANCIENT RACE.

The Albanians are said by ethnologists to be the most ancient race in Southern Europe, and are probably the descendants of the earliest Aryan immigrants into the Balkans though history does not record a time when they were not in the country where they now dwell. The race is divided into two distinct sections, the Ghegs, who live in the north, and the Tosks, who live in the south. In Roman times these two branches were divided by the river Shkumb and that stream still makes the boundary between them. As already mentioned the Albanian calls his country Shkuperia—the land of the eagle—and that is a fitting name for the untamed mountain man with his keen eyes, aquiline nose, and proud bearing. There are two types in the race, the dark and the fair, the latter are the most numerous and the tallest, but not so tall as the Montenegrin for instance. The men are wonderfully active and supple and always carry arms. Turkish control was only nominal and taxes were seldom paid. Conscription was not enforced but these natural fighters took a large share in all Turkish wars. The “magnificent Turk,” of Constantinople, so admired by the tourist, was almost always an Albanian, and it was safe to assume that anyone who told of the amazing physique of the Turkish army had the Albanian regiments in mind.

ALBANIANS FIRST AND ALL THE TIME.

Though the Albanians are now mostly Moslems, they are Albanians first, and Moslems afterwards. Therein they differ from most other peoples in the Balkans whose religious differences are even more bitter than their racial quarrels. The Al-

banians must have freedom, and permission to carry arms, and finding they could best secure this by becoming Moslems they embraced that faith, when the Turks first conquered their country. The term Turk, by the way, is applied in the Balkans to all Moslems, and not merely to those of Turkish race. In the constant fights which go on in Albania the divisions are tribal not religious. Moslems may fight Moslems, and Christians Christians, but members of the same tribe will not battle with each other. Albanian Christians persecute Slav Christians with the same fervour as is shown by Mohammedan Albanians.

BLOOD FEUDS.

Albanian is entirely distinct from the neighbouring languages, and is, of course, an Aryan tongue. It is the only surviving link with the languages which formed the primitive speech in the Balkans in prehistoric times. As there is no literature, it is inevitable that the various dialects should have become very dissimilar, and under the circumstances, it is remarkable that neither Latin, Greek, nor Serbian should have permanently displaced it long ago. The Tosk is a much more lively and affable person than the Gheg who is inclined to be morose and stern, but both branches of the race keep the duty of revenge as a sacred tradition. Consequently, vendettas are numerous, and there is constant war between families and clans. Owing to these blood feuds scarcely any of the men die a natural death. No stranger dare venture into the mountains without what is called the *Bessa* of one of the people. If he has this pledge he is safe, if he has not, it is unlikely that he will ever return.



CATECHISM OF THE WAR—XLV.

Q.—How many prisoners do the belligerent countries hold respectively?

A.—Official particulars are not available save for Great Britain and Germany. After two years' war, the German General Staff announced that the following prisoners were held by the Central Powers:—1,663,794 in Germany, 942,489 in Austria, 38,000 in Bulgaria, and 14,000 in Turkey, making a total of 2,658,283. This total does not include any Italians, of whom the Austrians claim to have taken 50,000. Lord Newton, Minister in charge of prisoners in Great Britain, stated on February 6, 1917, that he estimated the Germans held 1,500,000 Russians, 400,000 French, 50,000 Belgians, 35,000 British. According to the German official report of last August, the numbers held in Germany itself were as follow:—

Russians	1,211,801
French	354,678
Belgians	42,408
English	30,903
Serbians	23,914

If we may take Lord Newton's figures as official, the Germans, since August, 1916, have captured 300,000 Russians, 44,000 French, 8000 Belgians, and 4000 British. According to the official German report, after two years' war, the Austrians held 781,566 Russians; presumably they have added to that total, and it would be safe to put it down as 800,000; if we do this, and include the Italians, we get the following totals:—

In Germany (Lord Newton's estimate)	1,985,000
In Austria—Russians	800,000
Italians	50,000
Serbians	40,000
	990,000
In Bulgaria	38,000
In Turkey	14,000
Total	2,927,000

The Russians claim to have taken prisoner some 1,500,000 Austrians and Germans. The total German losses in prisoners and missing, according to their statement of last August, was 400,000. It is assumed that the French hold something like 150,000. We have 58,000, and the Russians presumably have the rest. The Italians claim to have captured about 40,000 Austrians. If we add

these approximate figures together we get the following result:—

In England	58,000
In France	150,000
In Italy	40,000
In Russia	1,000,000
Total	1,248,000

It would seem that, owing to the heavy captures of Russians, the Germans alone have a higher total of prisoners than all the other Allied countries put together. These Russians have been of considerable use to their captors, having been extensively utilised on farm work and other operations.

Q.—What are the numbers of German prisoners in England and of English prisoners in Germany?

A.—There were at the end of May, 1917, 58,138 German prisoners of war in England, and 42,831 British prisoners of war in Germany. Since then we have captured some thousands of Germans, and they have also captured a goodly number of our men. There were 3600 British civilians interned in German prison camps, and 32,274 German civilians interned in British camps at that time.

Q.—How many men have been killed, wounded and missing on our side since the war started?

A.—The French have never given any details or totals at all. The Italians have also preserved silence on the subject of losses, so, too, have the Serbians, the Roumanians and the Belgians. The Russians have never published lists either. The only particulars available relate to prisoners of war, and these are published by the German Government. Casualty lists are published in Great Britain, but several months appear to be missing. Mr. Asquith in December, 1915, gave the total number of killed, wounded and missing since the war began at 528,227. Since then monthly lists have been published, but from January, 1916, to May, 1916, they do not appear to have been issued, nor are those of February, March and April of this year yet available, although the May list has been cabled here. It is impossible, therefore, to give the correct totals, but with these exceptions the list is as follows:—

August, 1914, to November, 1915 (Asquith's statement)	528,227
December, 1915, List	14,570
Jan., Feb., March, April, May Lists Missing.	
June, 1916, to Jan., 1917	603,467
Feb., March, April, 1917, Lists Missing.	
May, 1917,	113,066
Total	1,250,330

This figure lumps together all casualties, killed, wounded, and prisoners. The last detailed lists were those given by Mr. Asquith and in those there were three men wounded to one man killed. On that basis, therefore, making due allowance for prisoners, the number of which is known, it would seem that Great Britain had lost 300,000 killed, and had 900,000 wounded. Of course, to these have to be added the losses during the eight months of which no record is at present available.

Q.—Has no estimate been made of the total losses?

A.—A statement of the number of officers killed and wounded was made after two years war, viz., 41,219. Assuming the proportion between the losses of officers and men has remained constant, we can calculate the total casualties and, deducting those given in the above list for the first two years, find that from January to May, 1916, the losses were apparently 380,000. We might possibly assume the losses during the three winter months, January, February, and March, of this year to be at the rate of 60,000 a month, making, 240,000 for the three. Adding these two figures to the total above we get :—

August, 1914, to November, 1915 (Mr. Asquith's statement)	528,227
Dec., 1915, List (official)	14,570
Jan. to May, 1916, estimated from known number of officers' casualties, official lists missing	380,000
June, 1916, to Jan., 1917 (official)	603,467
Feb. to April, 1917, estimated, official lists missing	240,000
May, 1917, List (official)	113,066
Total	1,879,330

On the three to one basis, after deduction of prisoners, this would mean about 450,000 killed, and 1,350,000 wounded.

Q.—Have you particulars of Australian losses?

A.—Latest information places them at—dead 24,106, wounded 31,585, and missing 5102, a total of 60,793. This does not include prisoners, of whom it is said there are

more than a thousand in Germany, and some hundreds in Turkey. The Canadian losses are also published. The last list shows 16,466 dead, 48,454 wounded, 2970 missing, and 3373 prisoners of war.

Q.—Do the Germans make their casualties known?

A.—Yes; they have consistently done so ever since the war began. According to their official lists the total losses up to the end of April were 4,245,304, the dead numbering 1,042,029. Particulars of Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish losses are not procurable. Speaking last month in London, Mr. Arthur Henderson, a member of the War Cabinet, stated that the killed and wounded in the war exceeded 46,000,000, and that the killed numbered no less than 7,000,000. Assuming the Austrian losses equal to the German—which is hardly likely—and the Bulgarian and Turkish killed at 250,000, the enemy dead would total 2,340,000, and if we may place any reliance on Mr. Henderson's figures, the Allied dead would number 3,660,000. A ghastly slaughter.

Q.—What was the Declaration of London, and when did Great Britain find it to her advantage to decline to abide by it?

A.—The Declaration of London was fully described in our August 26, 1916, number. It is the name given to a Convention which was drawn up between all the maritime Powers at London in 1908. It was the outcome of the Hague Convention of 1907, where finality with regard to the rules of naval warfare and contraband had not been reached. The Convention declared certain things contraband, others were barred from ever being declared contraband, and yet others were put in the list of conditional contraband. Great Britain did not ratify the Declaration, as the House of Lords refused to approve. When the war broke out Great Britain declared that she would abide by the Declaration of London, with certain modifications, which she announced. The Declaration laid down certain rules with regard to blockade and the like which Great Britain found it impossible to carry out, and, consequently, thought it advisable to denounce it altogether.

Q.—Is it possible to send parcels from Australia to prisoners of war or civilians interned in Germany?

A.—No, the transmission of all parcels from Australia to prisoners of war interned abroad is prohibited. This course has been

adopted as it was found that two-thirds of the parcels sent to prisoners from the Commonwealth have been worse than useless. That is not surprising, as people sent the parcels in bad carriageable form and the inclusion of all manner of food stuffs, was, of course, absurd. But the prisoners are all being exceedingly well looked after, as the Australian branch of the Red Cross Society sends all Australian prisoners of war in Germany a weekly parcel of food from London, made up as follows:—

One tin army rations, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tin butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, 1 tin Nestles Milk, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sugar, 1 carton biscuits, 1 tin camp pie, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Navy Cut tobacco, and 100 Virginian cigarettes (fortnightly), 1 tin Australian corn beef, 1 lb. tin Chiver's jam, 1 tin Armour's dripping, 1 tin salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. condensed milk, 1 lb. sugar, 1 packet lemonade powder.

In addition, it sends, a weekly parcel of bread from Berne, and a weekly parcel of cheese, butter and dripping, from the same neutral city. Then, directly the prisoner is located he is sent a parcel of clothes containing the following supplies:—

One tooth brush, 2 shirts, 1 tooth powder, 2 pants, 2 shirts (under), 3 handkerchiefs, 1 comb, 1 safety razor, 1 toilet soap, 2 towels, 2 pair socks, 1 shaving brush, 1 shaving soap, 1 tin insectibane, 1 tin boracic powder, 1 pipe, 1 packet of playing cards, 1 housewife.

In addition he gets a parcel of clothing supplied every six months, made up as follows:—

Greatcoat, jacket, trousers, cap, boots, shoes (canvas), shirts, socks, vests, drawers, cardigan, gloves, kit-bag, one pair blankets for winter.

Various other parcels containing cocoa, herrings, sauce, etc., are also sent. Thus it will be seen that the prohibition on the direct despatch of parcels does not in any way deleteriously affect the prisoners in Germany. All that is lost is the sentimental feeling that they are getting something direct from their home folks. These naturally would prefer to send things for their boys' comfort themselves, but their inability to do so need not deter them from subscribing the amount they would spend on this to the Red Cross which is caring for their boys for them.

Q.—Can money be sent to these soldiers?

A.—Yes, that may be done by means of Money Orders, which can be sent to the Central Prisoners of War Committee, 4 Thurloe Place, London, S.W., Postal

orders, Treasury notes, and Bank notes should not be sent. The transmission of coin is prohibited. Remittance by telegram cannot be made. The Red Cross suggests by letter to each prisoner that he should sign an order authorising it to draw from his pay account with the A.I.F. Headquarters in London up to 10s. per month for privates, 15s. per month for non-commissioned officers, 20s. per month for warrant officers, 40s. per month for officers. The Red Cross undertakes to spend this money either in extra parcels of food and comforts, or in remittances of small amounts of cash as may be desired by the soldiers. Altogether, those who have relatives or friends prisoners in Germany may be satisfied that they are all receiving special parcels of food and clothing from London and Switzerland regularly.

Q.—Do these parcels really reach the prisoners?

A.—The Red Cross Commissioners state that these parcels are received intact by the prisoners, and they also assert that on the whole they are well treated in the camps. The Red Cross has 1377 names of prisoners on its lists and the sending of parcels to them involves an expenditure of £5000 a month. It is easily understandable that the Red Cross is unable to send special parcels, as all prisoners must be treated alike by the Society.

Q.—Is the revenue of the Mikado greater than that of the Kaiser?

A.—The Mikado is certainly the wealthiest sovereign in the world, but he does not have much say in the distribution of his wealth, or in the conduct of his affairs. The Mikado is run by the Elder Statesmen, and his revenues are administered and expended by the Satumsa and Choshu clans. He owns about 5,000,000 acres, that is to say, more than one-twentieth of the total area of Japan. A very conservative average would place the value of this land at £20 per acre, so that in property alone he has £100,000,000, at the very lowest estimate. Probably £200,000,000 is nearer the mark. In addition he is a stockholder in the Bank of Japan, where he has 60,660 shares, in the Yokohama Specie Bank, 60,400 shares. In the Industrial Bank, 10,000 shares; in the Shipping Company Nippon Yusen Kaisha, 80,550 shares. It is estimated that the value of his industrial holdings amounts to £50,000,000. The Kaiser is said to own property in land and

kind worth about £25,000,000. The Kaiser has to pay pensions and the like to German princes out of his private revenues, and the Mikado pays pensions to the nobility, and makes large grants to those who have earned the gratitude of the ruling faction.

Q.—Are the Japanese really good colonisers?

A.—They might have done better, for Japanese authorities, after a careful survey of the country, estimated that, if the people would reclaim and put under cultivation land which is inclined at an angle of less than 15 degrees, the area of arable land in Japan could be doubled. But the farmers remain content with their narrow fields, and seem to have no idea of terracing the sides of hills and mountains after the manner of the Chinese. It is estimated that in Hokkaido, the northern island of the Japanese Archipelago, there is enough uncultivated land to take care of the Japanese surplus population for many years to come. Actually the population of Japan is not as dense as that of Belgium or of England; but if we eliminate from the figures of area the unproductive lands of each country, the population per square mile works out at approximately—in England 466, Belgium 702, Japan 2688. That is to say, that there is less than a quarter acre of cultivated land for each person.

Q.—Could you give me some idea of the wages paid in Japan?

A.—These are very low. According to official reports, the daily wage of labourers in various lines of work was, in 1913:—

Female silk spinners	7½d. a day.
Weavers, male	10½d. „
Weavers, female	6½d. „
Dyers	1/- „
Tailors	1/2 „
Shoemakers	1/6 „
Confectioners	11d. „
Carpenters	1/0½ „
Plasterers	1/10½ „
Stone Cutters	2/- „
Jewellers	1/5 „
Printers	1/1 „

These wages are paid not for the eight hours' day, to which we are accustomed, but for the ten, twelve or sixteen hours' day of Japan. A Japanese printer, for instance, if paid the wages given above for a forty-eight hours' week, would only earn between four and five shillings a week.

Q.—But the cost of living is low in Japan, is it not?

A.—The actual cost of living is little less in Japan than it is here, but the Japanese

workman does without the comforts and pleasures enjoyed by his fellow workman in other lands. Not only is thrift required, but great self-denial to make ends meet in the Mikado's kingdom. The price of rice is practically the same in Japan as it is in America, *i.e.*, for 6s. you can buy 50 lbs. of the best quality rice in Japan, and 70 lb. of the poorest quality. Sugar and salt cost practically the same in Japan as they do in England. Tea is cheaper, but fuel is much dearer. Meat is more expensive in Japan, but fish, again, is cheaper. Beef sells in Japan at 1s. per lb., horse meat at 6½d. and pork at 7d. These are, of course, paid for the cheapest cuts. Butter, cheese, milk and cream are about as expensive in Japan as they are in England. Eggs are cheaper there; the best grades selling the year round at 9d. a dozen, but the eggs of Japan are small and of inferior quality. Rent is cheaper, but the houses are of very light construction, and give no protection from the cold of winter. Clothing in the European style costs about the same in Japan as in England. Japanese clothing is actually more expensive than European, and many Japanese adopt the foreign style of dress out of motives of economy. But, of course, the Japanese spend much less on dress than we do; in fact, during the greater part of the year the climate is such that the lower classes seldom wear much more than the compulsory loin cloth.

Q.—Have you any figures showing what the decline in American foreign trade was as a result of the German submarine blockade?

A.—The German underwater campaign began on 1st February, and according to the official figures the foreign trade of the United States decreased by approximately £40,000,000 during February. Of this decrease £30,000,000 was in exports. The figures are as follow:—Exports for January, 613,000,000 dols.; exports for February, 466,000,000 dols. The decline in tonnage arriving in New York was 23 per cent. below that which arrived in January, and there was a drop in the tonnage cleared of 20 per cent.

Q.—Could you tell me how many Roman Catholics have enlisted in the A.I.F. since the war began?

A.—Particulars to date are not yet available, but the Defence Department has published the figures for the first 209,500 members of the A.I.F. Only percentages were given, but apparently 38,900 of the first

200,000 men who volunteered were Roman Catholics. It would be very interesting indeed to know what proportion of the third hundred thousand, the men who went, not in the first burst of enthusiasm, but after mature consideration, were Roman Catholics.

Q.—What were the contingents from other faiths?

A.—The return lumps Methodists, Baptists and Congregationalists together, but gives Church of England, Presbyterians and Jews separately. It is interesting to compare the percentages of recruits and of population.

Religion.	Per cent. Enlisted.	Per cent. of Popu- lation.
Church of England	50.05	38.30
Roman Catholics	18.57	20.68
Presbyterian	14.94	12.53
Methodists, etc.	13.11	16.13
Jews32	.38

Q.—Have there been more enlistments in Ireland than in Australia?

A.—Nothing like as many. Ireland had a population of 4,390,000 at the 1911 census, and the population of the Commonwealth at that time was 4,455,000. According to a statement issued at the end of last year, 130,000 men had enlisted from Ireland since the outbreak of the war. At that time over 300,000 men had enlisted from the Commonwealth.

Q.—What is a Diesel engine?

A.—It is the most successful type of internal combustion engine using heavy oil. It can be driven with ordinary petroleum, does not require the highly explosive oils used in motor car and aeroplane engines. A technical description can hardly be given here, but the main difference between this engine and other heavy-oil engines which preceded it, lies in the fact that no external combustion needs to be applied, and that no actual explosion takes place. It has to operate at much higher pressure than any other internal combustion engines, and this caused some of the alarming accidents which occurred in the early days of its use. Danger has now been entirely avoided, and the present machines are safe and easy to operate. Owing to the perfect combustion of the oil there is hardly any dirt or smell, and very little waste of power. Less than one-half pint of crude oil gives one brake horse power. Originally the inven-

tion of a German, Otto Diesel—who committed suicide under mysterious circumstances—the engine has lately been greatly improved. It is used in the German submarines. The wooden fleet building in the United States will no doubt be engined with Diesels, and they are already considerably used in auxiliary sailing ships.

Q.—Are the golf courses being ploughed up in Great Britain in order to grow wheat or potatoes?

A.—It is possible that some of the courses are being brought under the plough, but not many. There is plenty of land available without resorting to these courses, which in the majority of cases are on poor land, and can carry sheep. Many public parks have been ploughed up, amongst others Richmond Park, but the somewhat spectacular cultivation of public gardens in the London area is hardly likely to make much difference in the food production of the country. This digging up of beautiful lawns and flower beds is, no doubt, done rather with the object of demonstrating to the people the need for cultivation of every possible acre than with the idea of raising large crops.

Q.—Is it true that it is impossible to purchase sugar in England unless other groceries are bought at the same time?

A.—It is now illegal to make conditional sales of foodstuffs in Great Britain. The Food (Conditions of Sales) Order, 1917, provides that, except under the authority of the Food Controller, no person shall, in connection with the sale or proposed sale of any article of food, impose, or attempt to impose, any condition relating to the purchase of any other article. The expression "article of food" includes any article used for food by man, and any article which ordinarily enters into the composition or preparation of human food. Grocers may not now sell any article of food in amounts in excess of any customer's "ordinary requirements." No person may affix to any package of tea any statement as to weight which is not a true statement of the net weight of the tea in such package, and on and after July 1st all tea sold by retailers must—except in sales in quantities of less than two ounces—be sold by net weight, and in ounces or pounds or in multiples of ounces or pounds. Several tradesmen have been fined substantial sums for making condition sales in sugar and potatoes.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

IV.—Why Not Adopt the Decimal System ?

Now, surely, is the time for us to slough off the antediluvian monetary system which has for so many centuries braked British progress. So many things deemed utterly unworkable have been found, under the stress of war, to be quite practical, that the objection to altering our present foolish currency on the ground that it would involve endless difficulties and make confusion worse confounded, can, in the light of recent experience, be entirely ignored. There are still those, no doubt, who fondly imagine that, because our fathers got on very well calculating and trading in £.s.d., that this system is the best in the world, and to try and alter it would be almost sacrilegious! Such folk will get shocks before long—unless I am much mistaken—which will cause them to regard the mere alteration of the currency as the mildest sort of earth tremor! The great majority are by now convinced that it is high time to abandon this antique and cumbersome system in favour of a decimal one, and are only concerned as to how this alteration is to be made with the least trouble and to the best advantage.

For the benefit of those who still actually believe that our pounds, shillings and pence system is ideal for the British race. I should just like to point out that it terribly handicaps us at every turn. Let us begin right at the beginning. One of the principal items in the curriculum of the elementary school is arithmetic, and hours a day are devoted to instructing the rising generation in the right manner to calculate values and measures. The British or Australian schoolboy, or girl, spends, at the very lowest estimate, at least an hour every day doing sums. The French, German, Italian, Spanish, or, indeed, any European child escapes that drudgery almost entirely. All he needs to be able to do is to multiply, add, subtract and divide whole figures. He is unbothered by fractions—which drive us mad—unhampered by having to bring pounds to shillings, and shillings to pence, and pence to farthings, and plagued by having to then immediately set to work to do up all he has undone, and

bring farthings to pennies, pennies to shillings, and shillings to pounds. All the French child does is to move a decimal point.

It is hardly necessary to give an illustration, but for the sake of confounding our obsolete system I do so, assuming that the sum which follows has to be worked out by a child:—

The question the Australian child has to answer:—

I buy 31 horses for £1306 14s. 7d., and sell them for £1391 15s. 5d. What profit do I make on each horse?

The question the French child has to answer:—

I buy 31 horses for 32665.82 francs, and sell them for 34791.49 francs. What profit do I make on each horse?

OUR WAY.

£1391 13 5
1306 14 7

Profit—£84 18 10

Reduce to pence—

£84 18 10
20

1680

18

1698

12

20,376

10

20,386 pence.

Divide by number of horses—

31)20386(657
186

178

155

236

217

19

Profit per horse—

657 19-31d.

Bring to £.s.d.—

12 : 657 19-31d.

20 : 54-9 19-31d.

£2 14 9 19-31d.

Profit per horse.

FRENCH WAY.

34791.49 francs.
32665.82

Profit, 2125.67 fr.

Divide by number of horses—

31)2125.67(68.57
186

265

248

176

155

217

217

Answer—68.57 fr.

Profit per horse.

If we are exceedingly moderate, and reckon only one hour a day spent in arithmetic, that is, five hours a week, or, adding for holidays, 250 hours a year. If the number of school hours daily be taken as six, this means that 40 days annually, at the very least, are devoted to wrestling with arithmetic. The British child, then, starts the race for knowledge with his European opponent handicapped to the extent of 40 days in a school year of 220 days. That this handicap is indeed very real cannot but be admitted by the most conservative lover of ancient systems. The *£.s.d.* trouble chiefly concerns the beginner in life's struggle, but, after having mastered that, he has to wrestle with those terrible tables of weights and measures which seem to have been specially invented to plague him. If we could change these ancient measures and weights, which have descended to us, an unwelcome legacy from the pre-Christian era, for a sane metric system, we would immensely lighten the load the schoolboy or girl has to carry. It would not be too much to say that, if we adopted the metric system, like France or Germany, we would save at least two years for the youth of the nation. The result would be that the boy of fifteen, instead of having had, say, eight years' schooling, as at present, would actually have had ten years. To-day the French or German boy of fifteen has, in fact, got a couple of years' start of the English, merely owing to the fact that the European, instead of making extensive calculations, as the English must do, simply moves a decimal point.

When we go further and follow the boy out into the world we find him still terribly handicapped by having to use our effete system of coinage and weights and measures. In banks, in all manner of businesses where money and quantities play a part, clerks must necessarily take longer over their tasks than their Continental competitors. The advantages of the metrical system need not be further laboured, they are so very obvious; but there can be no doubt whatever that, owing to our continued adherence to the ways of our forefathers, each of us has less time for other work or study than the Continental. This is a grave handicap we ought to throw off at the earliest possible moment—and no better time could be seized than the present, when the whole world is in a state of flux. In the first place must come reform of the coinage, for it is a far easier

problem to tackle than the decimalisation of our weights and measures. The American and Canadians have a sane currency, but still, like other English-speaking folk, struggle along with old-fashioned weights and measures. Yet the Canadian boy, thanks to his monetary standard, has a distinct advantage over the Australian, gaining many hours start during the early school days.

But whilst everyone who has troubled to study the question is agreed that it is high time we abandoned our present system of currency in favour of a decimal one; there is a lamentable lack of agreement as to the form the new currency should take. To my mind there are only two schemes worth considering, and the decision between them cannot be made on purely utilitarian grounds. Sentiment must to some extent come in. We must either follow the Canadians and Americans and adopt the dollar, scrapping our present coinage altogether, or we must adopt some system which enables us to use the greatest number of the present coins.

The dollar scheme has sentiment behind it. Already one great Dominion has adopted it, a hundred million of our cousins in the United States use it. If we in turn do so, then the union of the English-speaking folk in the world will obviously be further cemented. On the other hand, there are clearly drawbacks to this course. An entirely new coinage would have to be introduced. The calling in of the old coins would be a long and tedious process, and until they were accounted for, we would be on a dual system infinitely more confusing and exasperating than that which obtained in Austria when that country stepped from one decimal system to another. Whilst I am naturally all for the bringing closer together of the English-speaking peoples, I do not think that the sentimental advantages of adopting the dollar standard anything like outweigh the advantages of adopting a decimal system which could enable us to utilise our present coins, and therefore avoid all confusion when the change was made.

The suggestions for decimalising our present system are numerous, though many of them, in their endeavour to preserve the sovereign as the unit, evolve what is hardly a real decimal coinage, rather a sort of duodecimal one, easy enough to work but introducing an extra and needless operation into all calculations. It is impossible to deal with anything like all the proposed

methods, but one or two are worth studying. Roughly, the suggestions divide themselves into two main groups, those which aim at retaining the sovereign, and those which desire to make the shilling the foundation on which the coinage is built. There is yet a third group which would try and erect a system of coinage on the half-penny, thus copying the Americans, whose currency is founded on the cent.

The sovereign-preservation folk have naturally to make the florin the unit. This they call 100 cents. The shilling is the half-florin—50 cents. The sixpence is the quarter-florin—25 cents, and the penny becomes 5 cents, worth, that is, 1.20 pennies. A typical example of such a coinage is as follows:—

Gold—
The sovereign.
The half-sovereign.
Silver—
The double florin.
The florin = cents 100.
The half-florin (one shilling) = cents 50.
The quarter-florin (sixpence) = cents 25.
Nickel—
The dime = cents 10 (2.40d.) 5 = 1 shilling.
Five cents (one penny) = cents 05 (1.20d.)
10 = 1 shilling.
Bronze—
Four cents = cents 04 (.96d.)
Two cents = cents 02 (.48d.)
One cent = cent 01 (.24d.)

This coinage would preserve all our present silver coins except the half-crown and the threepenny bit, but would require the withdrawal of the copper coins now in use. It has the disadvantage of giving the florin the place of the shilling, and also creating yet another cent to add to the numberless cents of varied value which already exist. The florin, however, has a very strong backing, and was adopted as a unit at the meeting of the Association of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom on March 20th last. It would be far better, though, if this system be adopted, to avoid the name cent altogether, and call the 100th part of a florin a farthing, which, indeed, it practically is. In time, of course, the old names sovereign, half-sovereign, and shilling would disappear, and the coins—or notes—be known as ten-florins, five-florins, and a half-florin respectively. A sixpence would be called 25 farthings, a penny 5 farthings,

and so on. Instead of writing £35 10s. 6d., as £35 15s. 6d., it would be written fl355.25, and would be known as three hundred and fifty-five florins 25 farthings, not as thirty-five pounds fifteen and a-quarter florins.

The scheme which strives to retain the shilling as the unit dethrones the sovereign from its proud position, and elevates the half-sovereign. According to this we should reckon in half-sovereigns, shillings and pence instead of in pounds, florins and cents. This system also has to increase the value of the penny, making ten go to the shilling. In this coinage £35 10s. 6d. would be set down as seventy-one half-sovereigns and five pence, and in actual practice as 710.5 shillings. Naturally some new name would have to be found for the half-sovereign. Eagle, lion, hund are amongst some of the suggestions put forward. The disadvantage of this system is that there are 50, not 100, farthings in the unit, consequently it would be necessary either to create a coin worth half a farthing or make some other arrangement.

Both the systems, the one with the florin as the basis, and that with the shilling, necessitate the increasing of the value of the penny, making, that is, ten go to the shilling instead of twelve. In many cases, of course, no more would be purchased by the new penny than could be got with the old. There would be only ten stamps in a shilling's worth, only ten newspapers in a dozen. Tram fares would remain a penny, and you would be carried no further for the money; but in ordinary business the prices could be much more finely graded than at present without any extra difficulty in calculation being demanded.

There can be no question whatever that the adoption of a decimal system of coinage would add immensely to our efficiency, aid us mightily in the struggle for commercial existence which is surely ahead. The motherland ought to take the lead, but if she dallies why should we not show the way? To introduce a decimal coinage would not help to win the war, but it would most assuredly help us to win through after the war is over. Here is a chance for the Win-the-War Government to really do something, instead of talking so much. Let it get busy!



A NEAR VIEW OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

John Pollock, who for two years has been in Russia administering the Great Britain to Poland Fund, collected for the benefit of refugees from Poland and Galicia, contributes a deeply interesting article on the Russian Revolution to *The Nineteenth Century*. He was through it all, and the information he gives us is obtained at first hand. The immediate causes of the revolution were, in his opinion, the reactionary methods of the Government—increased since the assassination of Rasputin—provocation by agents in the service of the Home Minister, and the shortage of bread. It was the last which brought about the actual explosion. Protopopoff, the infamous Minister of the Interior, whose methods caused that exasperation which was a contributing factor in the revolutionary movement, was curiously enough directly responsible for the success of the upheaval. When signs of trouble first appeared, Protopopoff placed machine guns on the roofs at every important street corner, garrisoning these houses with police. He had a great faith in the value of machine guns fired from the roofs of buildings, and it is to his bad disposition of these weapons that the success of the revolution is due.

To Protopopoff's disposition of the machine-guns the success of the revolution is due. Had they been properly posted in the streets at strategic points and a sound scheme of co-operation arranged among the police and the gendarmes, some fifty thousand in strength, they could have swept every living thing from the streets: placed in dormer windows and behind parapets, the mitrailleuses were extremely difficult to train on their objective, and the police forces scattered throughout the city in innumerable small detachments were not in a position to support one another.

At first it was not assumed that anything but rioting was taking place, and this was confined to the workmen's districts. But before long the soldiers began to join the revolutionaries, and, in order to avoid recognition, many officers of the revolted regiments dressed like privates. Among the first objectives of the crowd was the prison where political prisoners were kept. These were released, but with them ordinary criminals also, to the number of some 15,000, and some of the prisons were burnt. Police stations were then sacked, and huge bonfires made of their contents, furniture and papers. These fires lasted sometimes for a day and a night. The police archives, too,

were seized and burnt. By the night the revolutionaries were in possession of the whole of the city except the Winter Palace, the Admiralty and the telegraph and telephone stations.

Regiment after regiment went over to the revolutionaries, and these soon numbered 40,000. But discipline was completely relaxed, and had the two divisions stationed at Tsarskoe Selo remained loyal to the Tsar the revolution would have been suppressed even then. The next day, March 13th, there was heavy fighting in Petrograd. Every street corner became a trap for machine guns and rifle fire from the police ensconced in the upper part of the houses, shot at in their turn by parties of soldiers and civilians sheltering in doorways below. Firing from the houses did not cease until March 14th, by which time the Winter Palace had been evacuated and the Admiralty captured. Fighting continued in a desultory way for several days, but the revolutionaries had always the upper hand.

It is at present impossible to arrive at an exact figure of the numbers killed in and after the fighting, but it is certain that the agreeable statements made as to the bloodlessness are much exaggerated. The lowest estimates puts the number of dead at over two thousand; higher estimates at as much as ten thousand, while the number of wounded must also be considerable. The truth probably lies between four and five thousand killed. In the two days before the revolution broke out, some five hundred were killed in the centre of the city; during the three days of fighting many more, and this takes no account of the casualties beyond the river on the Petrograd and Viborg sides. Many officers were murdered by their men in the Baltic fleet as well as in the army. Many policemen captured red-handed were made prisoners and taken to the Duma; but very many more were shot on the spot and their bodies flung into the canals. In the provinces the revolution was of a paper character, being mostly executed in the telegraph offices. Normal life was scarcely interrupted for more than one day in Moscow, even less in other cities.

Warned by the fate of others, Ministers and officials of the old regime hastened to give themselves up to the Duma. Among the first was Stürmer, at whose residence a chest of gold was discovered. In the house of Count Fredericks, the Chief Minister of the Court, two boxes packed with gold were also unearthed. His house, full of objects of value and probably also of highly interesting correspondence, was burnt to the

ground. The wine cellar in the Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna's palace, valued at half a million roubles, was destroyed for fear the mob would sack the house. Protopopoff spent two days wandering about the streets seeking refuge with friends and being refused by all. He finally gave himself up, and was arrested.

The situation appears to have been saved by the President of the Duma, Radzianko, who summoned the Duma directly the trouble began, although his action in so doing would have cost him his head had the revolution failed. An executive committee was formed and took charge of affairs, was the forerunner of the Provisional Government. The Council of Workmen's Deputies was formed at almost the same time, and although later this body came into line with the Provisional Government, it appears to have first issued certain orders to the soldiers, which brought about most unfortunate results. During the revolution discipline disappeared altogether, but after

it was over the soldiers returned to their units, and appear to have gone back more or less to the old state of affairs, even saluting their officers, but the Council's orders, which ordained that in all political concerns the military was subject to the Council, caused an immediate deterioration amongst the forces. The semblance of order vanished, and was replaced by a sullen and occasionally threatening attitude.

Mr. Pollock's account does not suggest that the Liberal leaders of the Duma had any hand in the revolution, rather he makes it appear as if the workmen and the soldiers, goaded thereto by the autocratic methods of officials and the like, had suddenly erupted. The speed with which the Provisional Government was formed, however, certainly suggests that the Liberal leaders were not ignorant of what was going to happen, or unprepared to meet the crisis. He gives a very interesting account of the abdication of the Tsar, but, writing on March 24th, he does not take a very hopeful view of the situation.

TOMMY AND GERRY.

The cleverest strategists are, of course, those who criticise the doings of military commanders at the front from comfortable armchairs in their clubs. The most bitter and violent haters of the enemy are to be found amongst those who stay at home and slay the Kaiser with their mouths—or pens. The men in the trenches have not that furious antipathy to the German which is so constantly fanned into leaping flame in countries far from the scene of war by the calculated efforts of stay-at-homes, who appear to seize with positive relish upon every cable telling of atrocious doings of the enemy, which they promptly shout from the housetops to an accompaniment of "I told you so's," and assertions that a nation producing men who could do such deeds ought to be wiped off the face of the earth, and so on and so forth. Never by any chance do such individuals make the slightest reference to anything which might tend to show that amongst our enemies there are actually charitable men and women who "play the game" as far as it is possible in the hideous struggle, who even *mirable dictu* treat prisoners and wounded with consideration!

Such folk make much of the official statement of Captain Bean concerning the horrid treatment meted out to two West Australians

by their German captors, but preserve complete silence about the official statement of the Red Cross Commissioner on the subject. Yet they must be fully aware that the first report could not but cause the very gravest alarm to all who had relatives prisoners in Germany, and that the second would largely allay these fears. It would do these sort of patriots good to read some of the letters from soldiers at the front, or to peruse the articles which, not infrequently, appear in British journals about the sort of life that goes on in the front trenches. England being nearer to the scene of action, exhibits, on the whole, a less furious hatred against Germans than is shown here, demonstrates the truth of the assertion that the further away from the war people are, the greater their bitterness towards the foe.

Mr. S. Stapleton contributes an interesting article on "The Relations Between the Trenches" to *The Contemporary Review*. Most of his stories tell of the doings of the Irish soldiers, who call the Germans "Gerrys," and sometimes "Alleymans." Here is one of the incidents he gives:—

Once, when the Irish Guards were in the firing-line, they could see, by means of a mirror stuck up on the parados (the earth elevation rearward of the trench), a big, fat,

elderly German soldier, with a thick grey moustache, frequently pottering about the German trenches. He took the fancy of the Irish, for the reason that he appeared to them to be typically German. They could have shot him, had they chosen; but they preferred to make a pet of him, and every time he appeared they shouted together; "Good man, Alleyman"; so that he soon came to know the greeting and would bow his head with a smile towards the British lines. A day came when there was no "Alleyman," and the Irish Guards began to fear that some harm had befallen him. "Maybe some bla'guard of a sniper in another part of the lines has shot the dacent man" they said. Then it struck them to try whether a loud call for their favourite would bring him again into view. They raised a shout in unison of "We—want—Alleyman," and in about five minutes the rotund figure of the German appeared on the top of the parapet, smilingly bowing his acknowledgment of the great honour done him by his friends, the enemy. Great was the relief of the Irish Guards, and they raised a joyful cry of "Good man, Alleyman."

He tells about the fraternising which used to take place in former wars between French and British, and refers to the Christmas truce in 1914, which he considers was brought about more by curiosity than by anything else. Each side was anxious to see what manner of men were opposed to them.

The light-hearted Irish are often singing, and Mr. Stapleton gives an example of one such occasion:—

In the trenches one evening a battalion of the Leinster Regiment held a "kailee" (ceilidh), or Irish sing-song, at which there was a spirited rendering of the humorous old ballad, "Bryan O'Lynn," sung to an infectiously rollicking tune. The opening verse runs:—

"Bryan O'Lynn had no breeches to wear,
So he bought a sheep-skin to make him a pair,

With the woolly side out, and the skinny side in,

Faix, 'tis pleasant and cool, says Bryan O'Lynn."

The swing of the tune took the fancy of the Germans in their trenches, less than fifty yards away. With a "rumty-tum-tumty-tum-tum-tum," they loudly hummed the air of the end of each verse, all unknowing that the Leinsters, singing at the top of their voices, gave the words a topical application:—

"With the woolly side out, and the skinny side in,

'Sure, we'll wallop the Gerrys,' said Bryan O'Lynn."

Hearty bursts of laughter and cheers arose from both trenches at the conclusion of the song. It seemed as if the combatants gladly availed themselves of this chance oppor-

tunity of becoming united again in the common brotherhood of man, even for but a fleeting moment, by the spirit of good humour and hilarity.

A young English officer of a different battalion of the same Leinster Regiment tells of a more curious incident still which, likewise, led to a brief cessation of hostilities. Two privates in his company had a quarrel in the trenches, and nothing would do then but to fight it out on No Man's Land. The Germans were most appreciative and accommodating. Not only did they not molest the pugilists, but they cheered them, and actually fired the contents of their rifles in the air by way of a salute. The European War, was, in fact, suspended in this particular section of the lines while two Irishmen settled their own little differences by a contest of fists.

The Germans, in the mass, he says, are regarded as having been dehumanised and transformed into a process of ruthless destruction.

In any case, they are the enemy. As such, there is the satisfaction—nay, a positive delight—in sweeping them out of existence. That is war. But against the German soldier individually it may be said that, on the whole, there is no rancour. In fact, British soldiers have a curiously detached and generous way of regarding their country's enemies. When the German soldier is taken prisoner, or picked up wounded, the British soldier is disposed, as a hundred thousand instances show, to treat him as a "pal," to divide his food and share his cigarettes with him as he passes to the base.

Brief informal truces, he says, are not infrequent between the opposing forces, as when, with trenches on both sides flooded, the occupants got out of them on to the parapets to dry and stretch themselves, or when Germans and Irish, not twenty yards apart, openly repaired their wire entanglements, one Irish soldier even going over to borrow a mallet from his foes!

But the most touching stories of all are those telling of the sympathy which unites the combatants when they find themselves lying side by side wounded and helpless in the open after an engagement. They try to help each other, to staunch each others' wounds, to give each other comfort in their sore distress.

"Poor devil; unnerved by shell shock," was the comment passed as a wounded German was being carried out on a stretcher sobbing as if his heart would break. It was not the roar of the artillery and the bursting of high explosives that had unnerved him but the self-sacrifice of a Dublin Fusilier, who in succouring him lost his own life. At the hospital the German related that on recovering his senses after being shot he found the Dublin Fusilier trying to staunch the wound in his shattered leg, from which

blood was flowing profusely. The Irishman undid the field-dressing, consisting of bandage and antiseptic preparation, which he had wrapped round his own wound, and applied it to the German as he appeared to be in danger of bleeding to death. Before the two men were discovered by a British stretcher party the Dublin Fusilier had passed away. He developed blood-poisoning through his exposed wound. The German, on hearing the news, broke down and wept bitterly.

One of the most uplifting stories, says Mr. Stapleton, was told by a captain of the Royal Irish Fusiliers:—

Out there in front of the trench held by his company lay a figure in khaki writhing in pain and wailing for help. "Will no one come to me," he cried, in a voice broken with anguish. He had been disabled in the course of a raid on the German trenches the night before by a battalion which was relieved in the morning. These appeals of his were like stabs to the compassionate hearts of the Irish Fusiliers. Several of them told the captain they could stand it no longer, and must go out to the wounded man. If they were shot in the attempt, what matter! It happened that a little dog was then making himself quite at home in

both the British and German trenches at this part of the line. He was a neutral; he took no sides; he regularly crossed from one to the other, and found in both friends to give him food and a kind word with a pat on the head. The happy thought came to the captain to make a messenger of the dog. So he wrote: "May we take our wounded man in?" tied the note to the dog's tail, and sent him to the German trenches. The message was in English, for the captain did not know German, and had to trust to the chance of the enemy being able to read it. In a short time the dog returned with the answer. It was in English, and it ran: "Yes, you can have five minutes." So the captain and a man went out with a stretcher, and brought the poor fellow back to our lines. Then, standing on the top of the parapet, the captain took off his hat, and called out: "Give the Germans, three hearty cheers boys." The response was most enthusiastic. With the cheers were mingled such cries as, "Sure, the Gerrys are not all bad chaps, after all," and "May the heavens be the bed of those of them we may kill." More than that, the incident brought tears to many a man's eyes on the Irish side; and, it maybe, on the German side, too. Certainly answering cheers came from their trenches.

CARVING UP AUSTRIA.

In the early days of the war it was a favourite pursuit of many people to redraw the map of Europe as they hoped it would appear after the Allies had marched in triumph to Berlin. This useful exercise no doubt taught great numbers of people European geography, but it had little further use. There is now a quite noticeable tendency to resume this interesting occupation, the incoming of America having apparently convinced the map-makers that final victory is near. But we have learned a good deal during the last couple of years, and the remodelling of Europe is being done, on paper, in a far less drastic manner than formerly. Mr. Sidney Low, writing in *The Nineteenth Century* on "America and the Peace Settlement," has some exceedingly interesting things to say concerning the cutting up of the Dual Empire. He points out—a circumstance which most of our amateur cartographers forget—that we are not quite sure about the feelings of the various nations.

We know that the Croats heartily detest the arrogant and bigoted tyranny of Budapesth; it is not so certain that they seek to be absorbed into a Greater Serbia, or that Agram, which regards itself as the intellectual centre of the Illyrian race, would willingly subordinate itself to Belgrade. The Slovenes again are a somewhat doubtful fac-

tor. They do not love German Magyar rule; but is it clear that they are anxious to exchange it either for that of Italians or of Serbs?

The Czechs, he says, have been disgracefully treated, and have been denied the privileges to which they are legally, as well as morally, entitled, but they would not accept independence unless, they were allowed to annex the Slovak districts of Hungary.

Without the two millions of Slovaks they would be too weak numerically to counteract the large, powerful, and energetic German minority. The Slovaks have never developed any marked national consciousness, and it is not known whether they really desire incorporation with their Czech kinsmen. Even if they consented to come in, the proposed Czecho-Slovak state, squeezed in between Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Russia, buried in the very heart of the Continent, with no outlet to the open world for its flourishing industries except through alien territory, would not be in a very enviable position; and it would be burdened with its 31 per cent. of hostile and bitterly resentful Germans, always looking hungrily to the greater Teutonic aggregation beyond the frontier. It is at least conceivable that genuine Home Rule, and racial equality, under a Viennese central government, might be preferred by many Czechs and Slovaks, in spite of their abominable oppression during the present war, to this precarious independence.

The organisation of Europe is not by any means hopeless, but, when peace comes to be made, it will probably be found that the most urgent necessity will be found to be the reconciling of divergent ambitions, and the holding of the balance even between jealous and powerful rivals rather than the remodelling of the map on an ethnological basis. In the famous treaties of Paris, of Vienna, and of Berlin, which rearranged Europe, discreditable bargains were made, in order that some kind of agreement might be reached, and yet the negotiators were not blind to considerations of humanity and justice.

There is a danger, that the peace negotiations of this year or the next may be coloured by some such sinister influences. Here, too, there will be the ambitions to be gratified, rivalries to be adjusted, acquisitions in one quarter to be set against compensations in another, a good deal of territorial bargaining and chaffering to be undertaken. The high ideals before the Allied statesmen will assuredly not be abandoned; but it may be difficult to give full expression to them in this tense atmosphere. The inexorable preoccupations of the moment, as they press upon the belligerents, may take precedence of the wider demands of the future and the world. Therefore it may be hoped that means may be found to separate, so far as may be, these two functions of peace-making and reconstruction; and if, by so acting, it becomes possible for the United States to be intimately associated with both, a more stable settlement is likely to be reached.

He considers that the co-operation of the United States is requisite if any really satisfactory peace is to be made. We must have America, he says, as a working partner in all arrangements, those for concluding the war and those for reorganising the European family. In this connection, it is worth noting that Mr. Austin Harrison, in his *English Review*, points out that it is important to bear in mind that America is making war consequentially, with the moral purpose of establishing the relations of the Powers, with the positive object of securing organised peace, based upon a league of the nations.

It is important we should fully realise this. America has entered the war to secure our victory, but she has also entered the war to affirm a spiritual right in its settlement, to dispense of her humanities, and to prevent so far as she is able, a vindictive solution which would be no solution at all. All this is involved and implied in American belligerency. If her aim is to prevent the

assertion of Hohenzollern tyranny, her aim is equally to prevent the superimposition of any other form of militarist tyranny, to search rather for an enlightened peace as impersonal in her case as in ours. America's object is to emerge from the war as a member of a securer international order founded on a league of peace, and this is the meaning of America's hostility to German ambitions. She has gone to war to crush out the Kaiser's philosophy of violence and to remove it from the tenets of civilisation, to help raise old and shackled Europe out of her mediæval gyves and superstitions, to establish a higher code of national and international comity. In this policy she has been guided by events, and had Europe been strong enough to resist the Germanic invasion alone, doubtless America would have stood aloof, but without America Europe would in all probability have succumbed. America has been our arsenal, our nursery, our emporium. That is the meaning of German submarine ruthlessness; that is the reason of American intervention.

Lady Paget, who has had unrivalled opportunities of learning the real state of affairs in the polyglot Empire, writes in *The Nineteenth* on the subject of the cutting up of Austria. She is rather more hopeful than Mr. Low, but she points out that the proposals for dividing up King Charles' dominions may easily bring about the exact opposite result to that desired by those who makes plan for the partition. They propose that Austria should lose her Italian, Slavonic and Roumanian territories, for the Allies have announced that these will be freed from her yoke. This would reduce the population of Austria-Hungary from 50,000,000 to 20,000,000, and, she goes on to say:—

It is probably not in the interest of the Allies that the population of the Hapsburg Empire should be reduced to so small a number, for this would facilitate still more its absorption into Germany. In that event, although a defeated Germany would lose her Polish territories in the East, Alsace and Lorraine in the West and perhaps some Danish districts in the North, this would only mean a loss of about 8,000,000 to them, and as a result of the war the Government at Berlin would control 12,000,000 people more than they did before and become more dangerous than ever to the peace of the world.

If indeed the Allies adhere to their intention of allowing nationalities to decide who shall rule over them, and cut up Austria more or less along its ethnological borders, it would be difficult for them to prevent the German provinces from uniting with Germany proper. This would make Germany stronger than ever, and the position of Italy, with a great Germanic state

to the north, whose access to the Adriatic was barred by Italian territory, would hardly be an enviable one!

Lady Paget's solution is to make Silesia part of the Austrian Empire, induce the south German states to abandon Prussia and unite themselves with the Germans in

Austria. It is true, she says, that Austria must lose the Slavonic, Roumanian and Italian districts, but she ought to be compensated at Prussia's cost. She urges the Emperor of Austria to make a separate peace, and "all these things will then be added unto him."

GERMAN WOMEN AND THE WAR.

We have heard a great deal concerning what British and French women have done as war workers, but naturally little has appeared concerning the doings of enemy women. For that reason the article by Miss Caroline V. Kerr, in *Current History*, is of particular interest. She has lived for a long time in Berlin, where she acted as correspondent for a New York newspaper, and only left the German capital when war broke out with the United States.

The chief difference between the work done by German women and that done by British lies in the fact that, immediately the great war began, the former got busy, whilst it was not for over a year that the latter began to replace men in large numbers. The result is that the enemy organisations got quickly into full swing, whereas British women, not fully realising what would be demanded of them, set to work piecemeal and in amateurish fashion. That has been remedied now, but even yet there is a lamentable lack of plan and organisation amongst women in England. In Australia, of course, women have not been called upon to do the manual work of men who have joined the army. In reply to the question, What are the women of Germany doing to-day? Miss Kerr says:—

Everything, from sitting in the civic councils to sweeping the snow from the streets. From the very outbreak of the Great War it was plain to be seen that the women of Germany were filled with the determination to play their part in the great national epic, and to play it with fortitude and devotion. At no time have they swerved or faltered.

Not only are they engaged in the manifold phases of relief work such as obviously fall upon the womenfolk of a nation at war, but they have taken the places left vacant by the men on the farm and in the factory. The rapid readjustment of the German labour market was due to the fact that the number of female industrial workers was increased by half a million during the first eight months of the war. This new home army has been chiefly employed in the "war industries"—that is to say, in the metal and machine works or in the electrical and chemical

plants. Fifty thousand women are employed in one large ammunition factory, and the manufacture of shells is almost entirely in the hands of the women. Female labour is utilised, to a large extent, in the production of other war supplies which do not represent so striking a departure from normal activities. This is the case with the textile industries and the factories for ready-made clothing.

No one, says Miss Kerr, was surprised to find German women developing great organising gifts, but many were amazed to see how they fell into line when it came to recruiting the ranks of the thousand and one small trades and vocations which go to make up the every-day life of a big nation.

They are serving with success as letter carriers, as messenger boys, as chauffeurs, as window cleaners, as "motormen," as conductors on the street cars and subways, and one is reported as having joined the ancient and honourable guild of chimney-sweeps.

They are familiar figures on the streets where public works are in course of construction, and if you ask them who looks after their households in the meantime they cheerfully explain that they can rely upon the thoroughly organised system of municipal welfare work to care for them and their children.

Women are now serving in the municipal councils of all the big cities, and nothing to do with alimentation and public welfare is carried out without their counsel and co-operation. Surprising as it may seem, some who have developed extraordinary executive ability are actually assisting the Minister of Home Affairs.

One of these is Frau Sophie Heyl, the woman who gave the impulse to the centralisation of the national movement in household economics. Frau Heyl has received many orders for distinguished service, but no one of those is as gratifying to her as the unofficial title bestowed upon her of "The Hindenburg of the Kitchen."

She is verily a generalissimo in her line of work, and in the opening days of the war gave striking proofs of her gifts in this direction by mobilising the housekeepers of the land and initiating them into the role they were expected to play in the great

campaign then opening. Her ever-fertile brain evolved one scheme after another for meeting the unexpected economic situation, and the awakening of a national consciousness among the cooks and housewives of the empire was largely due to the efforts of this remarkable woman.

She it was who concocted the savoury stew known as "gulasch," millions of tins of which were sent to the trenches, and her "War Cook Books," distributed gratis by the tens of thousands throughout the land, have made her name a household word. She is responsible for the famous potato-paring and cherry-stone campaigns.

What Frau Heyl has accomplished in the field of household economics has been achieved along the broader lines of national welfare work by Dr Gertrude Baumer, President of the National Council of German Women and of that remarkable war organisation known as the National League of Public Service.

This organisation represents a concentration of effort and a comprehensiveness of scope never before attempted by the women of any country. The war was scarcely a week old when the call went out from Berlin to the remotest corner of the empire summoning the women of Germany to the colours, and the result was the present far-reaching organisation prepared to meet every exigency of the war relief and public welfare work.

Both Dr. Baumer and Frau Heyl attribute the phenomenal rapidity with which they were able to organise such large bodies of women, and direct their activities into channels of efficiency to the much-decried "Prussian militarism," which they claim only means schooling and subordination of the individual to the well-being of the masses—in other words, discipline and organisation.

This National League has a branch in every town, village and hamlet in Germany, and all these receive weekly remittances from the municipal treasuries.

Some idea of the magnitude of the work may be gained from the fact that in Berlin alone more than ten million marks are paid out every month to the soldiers' families, and practically all the applications for aid are handled by the league. In two months the Berlin Relief Committee distributed food certificates and bread and milk cards to a total amount of more than 130,000 marks.

Some of the duties of the league are to look after the war widows and orphans, to feed the hungry, to clothe the destitute, to find work for the unemployed, to mediate between landlords and tenants, and in every possible way to come to the immediate and effective relief of all the needy classes of the population. One of the chief activities of the league at the beginning of the war was to care for the thousands and thousands of refugees from the devastated provinces of East Prussia who poured into Berlin and other cities of the interior, and

for months claimed the hospitality of their more fortunate compatriots living within the "safety zone." In addition to the funds appropriated by the city, the league is the constant recipient of voluntary contributions; in fact, its treasury is in no danger of being exhausted should the war continue indefinitely.

All religious, party and social barriers have been swept away in the league, which is virtually charged with the care of everyone in Germany who is in distress, or has a soldier at the front. Its basic principle, however, is to make every applicant for aid self-supporting. It strongly discourages mere charity. It is not the first association to find out that living on the charity of others soon becomes an incurable habit, and is utterly destructive of all feelings of self-respect and personal responsibility!

The women, too, administer the large fund, the *Frauendank*, now amounting to many millions of marks, and designed as a special expression of gratitude from the women of Germany to those who have fallen. The object is to provide permanent support to families thus left unprovided for. The Royal women, headed by the Crown Princess—the Empress takes no public part—are working hard not only at relief work, but in war factories and in the field. Some built and manage hospitals, others institutes for training blind and wounded soldiers.

Another field of work to which German women have devoted themselves with great energy is gardening—not futile, amateur attempts to make things grow, but "war gardening" on a large and purposeful scale.

Baroness von Flotow is the head gardener at the Tetlow Vegetable Fields near Berlin, where 200 young women of gentle birth and breeding have braved wind and weather for two years in the execution of their volunteer task of cultivating 150 acres of land. This is only the largest of the "war gardens" which hang like a heavy green fringe around the skirts of Greater Berlin, now widening, now narrowing as the brick and mortar of the suburban settlements or the shining black ribbon of railway steel imposes an obstacle to their further progress.

The fruits and vegetables grown in these war gardens are sold for minimum prices in the co-operative retail shops opened up by the housewives' unions, who are thus in a position to control the prices of food-stuffs.

There has been such official recognition of the great work done by the women that it is regarded as quite certain that when the war is over they will not only receive the vote but will continue to take an active share in municipal government.

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE WITH THE £3,000,000,000 WASTED ON WAR.

Lady Warwick contributes a very thoughtful article to *The Fortnightly Review* on "The Past, Present and Future." These thoughts on wartime lead her to the conclusion that there is growing up a powerful group anxious to have the war go on. "The men who have put up new plant will want to use it. They will wish to secure a return for their outlay to keep their large new establishments together. They will not be a force for peace, but for war; they will intrigue to that end; if the purchase leaves a margin of profit they will buy war."

The world suffered from the armaments ring before the year 1914; that ring has now increased and multiplied. The planet Saturn is not more completely encircled by its ring than we are by ours. The armament firms will be the richest trading companies in the world, and they deal in death. However hard and unpalatable these facts, the world has to face and fight them. War has multiplied the pitfalls that surround peace.

Briefly, then, we have millions of men fighting one another under conditions that destroy nearly all sense save the sense of duty, and we have millions labouring with enthusiasm to provide their fellows with the means of continuing to destroy, these last building up something in the nature of a vested interest in destruction. We also have a few people—few by comparison rather than in actual numbers—to whom war is a cry for help, a cry to which they must instantly respond. They are repairing what is not irreparable, feeding the hungry, nursing the sick, clothing the naked, opening the eyes of the blind. Theirs the task to sweeten the bitterness of life, to comfort the mourners.

Where, she asks, is the enthusiasm, the atmosphere in which war was wont to live and thrive?

It has gone, I think, to two classes—the first, those who make vast stores of munitions for the destruction of life; the second, those who labour ceaselessly to mend some of the evils that war enforces. More than half the co-combatant world looks after the making of wounds, the residue of the industrious seeks to heal them. The passion of the fighter that once filled the earth has yielded to the passions of the profit-maker and the patriot, sad though it be to name the two classes side by side. Few people have any idea how the passion for munitions has bitten into the national life and even threatens to corrode it. Of what obtains in enemy countries we can have no sure knowledge, but among the others we know that Japan is working on a vast scale and has gone for to arm her old-time enemy, Russia. As far as the United States and Great Britain are concerned, we have facts and we have figures. They reveal the amaz-

ing truth that the world has turned all the patiently and painfully acquired resources of its civilisation to blast a large part of that civilisation off the earth. Nature's wealth, in the form of raw material, the finest and costliest machinery, the most skilled direction that is at a nation's disposal—these are but means to the one end. All England is at work, every district is mapped out, the hammer meets the anvil and women work at the lathe in countless places where before war broke upon us all industry was agricultural.

Lady Warwick then refers to some of the gigantic munition factories and armament firms that have come into being. The united capacity of seven of these—five in Sheffield, one in Glasgow, one in Newcastle—exceeds that of Krupp's!

In the United States one powder firm (Du Pont) was said in the beginning of last year to have sixty million pounds' worth of orders for the Allies. Its dividend for 1915 was two hundred per cent. In December of that year German agents replied to this menace to their plans by setting the extension works on fire. These had been put up in less than a year by ten thousand work-people, they housed thirty thousand souls, and in a night were a heap of ruins. I could continue to set out similar figures from the pile before me, but they do but tell the same story over and over again of violent activity, sustained endeavour, profits, dividends, sudden wealth, feverish excitement, prosperity in Protean shapes—most of them ugly.

On either side the Atlantic, she says, one sees the enthusiasm for world war, not among those who take part, but among those who profit by it.

Quite frankly the men who have laid out large sums for plant and power tell of their hopes that no country will dare disarm when peace is signed, that one and all will need munitions on a scale never before known, and that, in consequence, dividends and prices and business will be as flourishing even as it is to-day. Not lightly will the pursuers of profit lighten the load of a world they will claim to have saved.

The colossal expenditure of life, energy and resources is not, to Lady Warwick, the worst tragedy, it is rather the misdirection of force.

Let us suppose for a moment that the world that has dedicated all its resources in blood, energy, and treasure to wilful and premeditated destruction had elected to turn those resources to the removal of the admitted evils of our civilisation. Suppose it had kindled the same high enthusiasm, promoted the same carefully considered organisation, handled the vast material wealth. How

should we have been standing at the end of the year 1916?

Throughout the whole cultivable zone there would not be an untilled field. No man, woman, or child in Europe would be going in need of any of the necessities or reasonable amenities of life. Every city might have its educational endowment; the working day could have been divided in fashion that left for the humblest toiler his hours for recreation and improvement. Food, instead of doubling its normal prices, would have halved them, disease might have been greatly reduced, poverty abolished. The world that lies crying in pain would have been singing its songs of joy. The forces that have gone to the ruin of life would have hurried Time far along the road to the millennium. In the plenitude of the earth's richness, anxiety and greed and ambition might have received their death-blow; the divine event to which all creation moves would no longer have been far off. Nothing

more was needed to bring these changes about than the energy, the skill, and the sacrifice that have been so sedulously devoted to the cause of death, destruction and dismay. None of us knew the potentialities of the world we lived in; we haggled over small causes and mean gains while we had within our reach the fulcrum with which to move the earth. Now, almost as soon as we realise what we possessed, we have lost it, and the aftermath of peace must be full of poverty, pain, and irremediable economic stress. In no conceivable circumstance can the world be happier. Victors and vanquished alike must mourn their dead and know that the State can do little for the living to mitigate the bitterest suffering. All the hopes and the ambitions of reformers must remain for an uncertain period in the land of dreams, and in place of the brotherhood of man there must be all-consuming bitterness and rancour that only the years can heal, perhaps incompletely.

HOW THE EXCESS PROFITS TAX HAS WORKED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. Raymond Radclyffe contributes to *The English Review* a rather remarkable article upon the heavy taxation in Great Britain. He says that an income tax of 5/- in the pound and an excess profits tax of 60 per cent. produced no less than £344,953,000 for the year ending March 31st. This warmed the hearts of the people who regarded it as a splendid contribution towards the cost of the war. But, says Mr. Radclyffe, the net result of the heavy taxes has been to make the cost of the war go up by millions, and he gives figures which apparently prove this. The working man thinks that he is getting his own back when he hears that all the great capitalists have been compelled to disgorge 60 per cent. of their ill-gotten gains. "Why stop there," he says "why not make it 70 per cent., or even 80, or take the whole lot for the benefit of the State." The capitalist laughs and replies, "Put on any tax you like, I don't care. I don't pay it. You pay it, you poor deluded working man, ignorant of political economy."

Mr. Radclyffe asserts that the purchasing power of the pound sterling has dwindled so steadily that to-day a £1 Treasury note is worth only 11/-. Traders cannot, and will not work at a loss. They add the taxes to the cost of the goods they sell.

That traders do add taxes to the cost of the goods can be readily seen in the annual reports of the thousand and one limited companies which appear every year. If these companies struck their balances be-

fore adding the excess profits tax we should perhaps not be able to point the moral, but they don't. Almost all give net profits after deducting the tax, and also after deducting income tax. . . . Every manufacturer has made more money than he ever made before, and has made it after paying all the preposterous taxes.

The excess profits tax, says Mr. Radclyffe, is like a snowball. The shellmaker adds 60 per cent. to the cost of making, and usually another 10 per cent. for himself. He has to pay the iron or steel maker 60 or 70 per cent. more for the steel, and each separate item in his bill of costs is added to by the tax. The inevitable result is that he sells to the Government at a figure which includes the payment of the tax.

Provision shops have had to pay more for provisions and workmen find the cost of living higher and demand higher wages, which again increases the cost of goods they make. Yet the snowball goes on rolling, and when the Budget comes along we may find the excess profits tax raised to 75 per cent., which will automatically raise the whole cost of the war 15 per cent. Nay, it will do more, for it will raise the cost of the workman's food, and this means discontent, strikes, and then higher wages.

In conclusion, he suggests that the Government ought take off the tax. The people, when they demanded an Excess Profits Tax thought that they would stop profiteering. They must admit their mistake and cut it off altogether. "It was a hideous blunder, and has acted in a manner none of us foresaw."



A FIELD-MARSHAL'S MEMORIES.

It is a privilege to be allowed to share in the recollections of such a man as Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood, the more so as the great soldier possesses a rich humour and a ready pen. In some respects a supplement to the autobiography which appeared in 1906, this volume—*Winnowed Memories*, by Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood. (Cassell, illustrated. 16s. net)—contains an even larger number of his capital anecdotes; whilst the letters of contemporaries shed light upon several disputed historical points of our history. The dedication is to "My sister A.C.S., a sage counsellor in literature, an apt pupil in the hunting field." An unrivalled horseman, Sir Evelyn gives some delightful hunting stories. His horse, Charlie, who preferred dancing on his hindlegs to making progress in ordinary fashion, was won over by his rider's patience and sympathy, but of another "Banker" it is told that it had to be sold, as Sir Evelyn was leaving the country. A week after the sale he received a discourteous letter from the buyer as follows:—

Sir,—When I sent you £50 for your horse I thought I was buying a hunter, and did not know I should have to be a horse-breaker.

Sir Evelyn replied:—

Sir,—I sold you a horse for £50, but if you sent me £500 I could not send you hands to ride it.

Some of the stories are of practical jokes played when the Field-Marshal was a youngster. An unpopular Colonel had had his windows broken, and a married Major who was usually forgetful of what happened to him after dinner was actually persuaded that it was he who had committed the crime!

Sir Evelyn's "diary letters to his children" are very interesting. He tells them

of his trouble in getting his pay and of the tiresome red tape which demands not only his own signature, but also that of a clergyman or magistrate to certify that he is alive; to this he comically adds that perhaps some caution is necessary, as he had heard of a man who for years had been in receipt of a dead friend's pension. Sir Evelyn had one very rich relative (was it Meredith's friend?) who was accustomed to absolute sway over all who came near her. Unfortunately, Sir Evelyn often offended her. He relates of this lady that one day she had refused the request of a clergyman. "I suppose you want to go to Heaven yourself," said that gentleman. "Not if it is inconveniently crowded," was the instant reply. Maybe it was the soldier's habit of straight speaking which gave umbrage to her. When making a speech at Marlborough some years ago Sir Evelyn told the boys that when himself at school there he had been left indoors on a bright afternoon to do one of the sums in Colenso's arithmetic. He copied the answer, was accused of doing so, and denied it. His master's words made so deep an impression that truth became his lifelong watchword. "I thought you were a brave little boy," said the master, "and only cowards tell lies." There are many such words of wisdom resulting from the experience of this veteran soldier. After thirty years as a General he says, I am convinced that the army doctors should be regarded not merely as healers of the sick and wounded, but as trusted staff officers to advise their chiefs how to guard the troops against the origination and spreading of disease, and thus maintain the numbers of effectives in a campaign. Of the war he says, "I am optimist because our Commander-in-Chief appraises carefully values, yet he remains always a great fighter and will not shrink from any loss to gain victory for us and civilisation."

THE MELANCHOLY TALE OF "ME."

Perhaps there could scarcely be a greater contrast to the soldier and his friends than we have in another set of memories, those of Mr. E. H. Sothern—*My Remembrances*. The Melancholy Tale of "Me." By Edward H. Sothern. (Cassell, 50 illustrations. 12s. net.) In January, 1864, Mr. *Punch* announced that "The Viscount Dundreary, G.C.B., is entertaining a large circle of the nobility and other distinguished persons at his seat—and in their seats—in the Market of Hay. Several *battues* have taken place, and the noble Viscount has been very fortunate with his piece, and has frequently brought down the whole house. Theatricals are also provided for the amusement of the guests, and the favourite play, *Our American Cousin*, is being nightly performed to the immense delight of the brilliant assemblage."

It must have been about this time that Dundreary Sothern's second son Edward introduces himself to his reader as the little "Me" who was held up to look at the Atlantic Ocean through the porthole of a steamer bound for England. And what a remarkable family circle is pictured to us in these tales recounted by "Me," who at that period refused to answer to any other name. His brother Sam was known as "Ta," and it was real wisdom on Mr. Sothern's part when telling these most fascinating stories of child life to use the third person. The use of "Ta" and "Me" keeps him out of many a pitfall. The mother, whose sweet face with the graceful side curls is one of the numerous illustrations, used to read to the children a good deal—stories, fairy-tales, and some poetry—and as "Me" was attentive and inquisitive he collected some exceptional lore. He was very curious as to why "gentlemen who loved ladies made such very long and tiresome speeches to impress this fact upon them," and in the pursuit of knowledge on this particular point "Me" made some startling discoveries, especially as he called upon his Uncle Hugh to help him. A Don Quixote was Uncle Hugh. A sailor, who was shy of his great reputation, he spent hundreds of pounds out of his small income in taking care of the horse of a friend who had died in action, and used most of the remainder in fitting out a private expedition to relieve Gordon. His story is as pathetic as it is unusual.

"Ta's" characteristic manner of avoiding the study of Greek would have had no effect upon the ordinary father, we suspect, but the elder Sothern was by no means an ordinary father, and his son's anecdotes of him would surely make a hermit laugh. Take, for instance, the tale of how he dumbfounded Miss Keene when, as a member of her company, he was playing in America, under the name of Douglas Stewart. Laura Keene was "reported to have a bad temper, which took possession of her to such an extent that on one occasion she is said to have thrown goldfish about the room in her frenzy." Mr. E. H. Sothern continues:—

When that tempestuous lady undertook to discipline that audacious young man she met her Waterloo. He outmanoeuvred her, outflanked her, and, indeed, defeated her completely. Mr. Stewart had incurred Miss Keene's displeasure at a rehearsal. She summoned him to her dressing-room, and as soon as he entered she began a violent tirade. Mr. Stewart stepped quickly to the gas-jet, which illuminated the sacred chamber, and, turning out the gas, plunged the room into darkness.

"What do you mean, sir? How dare you?" stormed that lady.

"Pardon me, Miss Keene," said that impudent Mr. Stewart, "I can't bear to see a pretty woman in a temper," and under cover of the darkness he made his exit.

It is difficult to select examples from a book which contains such varied records, but one of the most remarkable is a psychic experience which happened to the author when he was studying art in London. He was anxious to speak French well, and a M. La Tappy came regularly to his rooms for conversation. They used to talk of many things, and became great friends. One wet afternoon Sothern was expecting La Tappy, and, sitting by the fire, fancied he must have slept, for there was the old Frenchman with his back to Sothern looking out of the window. They chatted in customary fashion, but La Tappy was not, as usual, trying to be gay. He left in a strange fashion, and whilst wondering what had become of him a man came to the door. "I am M. La Tappy's son," he said. "My father had an appointment with you at four; but I have come to tell you he can't be here; he died at three o'clock." More words passed confirming this, and it is no wonder that the impression made on Sothern was lasting.

In the later chapters of the book Mr. Sothorn tells a little of his own experiences as an actor, and of the ups and downs, mostly "downs" at first, which would surely have driven a less persevering man to despair. In this way we get reminiscences of some of the most noted actors, English and American, and just a very few words about his fairy godmother of a wife, Julia Marlowe. Charles Frohman had played a large part in his life's history, and in a letter written just before he sailed in

the *Lusitania* on his last voyage he regrets much that "dear Julia Marlowe and Eddie Sothorn were unable to sail with him." This letter must indeed be a cherished possession of the Sothorns.

Mr. Sothorn in his preface, after telling a charming story, makes believe that "nobody cares" that he, too, has jumped from behind a curtain, but the readers of his fascinating book will cry No! No! to the incorrigible joker.

RUSSIA: ANCIENT AND MODERN.

Russia and Europe, by Gregor Alexinsky (Fisher Unwin, 10s. 6d. net). A careful and informing study of the influence of Western ideas upon Russia; from the days when she acted as the connecting link between Scandinavia and Byzantium, serving in the dawn of her history as intermediary between the West and the East, to the present time. Written by a Russian with the aim of presenting Russian affairs to other nations—England chiefly, it may be presumed, as Mr. Miall has translated it from the manuscript—the book contains much which is new to most of us. It has been supposed that the permeation of Russia with Western ideas is somewhat modern, but Mr. Alexinsky states that in the twelfth century Novgorod was a free city, with an oligarchical form of government and in constant communication with the cities of the Hanseatic League. The foreign exploitation introduced by Peter the Great was artificial and harmful in comparison. The first collision between nationalist ideals and Western influences occurred in the brief reign of Dimitri the Imposter; when Prince Khrovostinin, attached to his court and coming in contact with Poles, rebelled against Muscovite manners and the Orthodox religion. After the fall of Dimitri, Khrovostinin was imprisoned in the monastery of St. Cyril, and instructed that he was not to pass a single day without prayers and canticles. In 1624 he assumed the monk's robe.

Under Peter the Great, immigrant farmers were encouraged, and the contrast between their estate and that of the Russian *mujik* leads up to an explanation of the true methods of "Europeanising" the economic system of Russia. The reason for the Crimean War is given as being economic and not geographical; France entered in not because she was hostile to Russia, but because of her friendship for England, and

Nihilism is shown to be of European origin. So, in page after page, history and contemporary writings are called upon to confirm Mr. Alexinsky's views, and it is well that a Russian, who has been a Deputy to the Duma, should put them before us. About the Duma itself, its faults and virtues, its origin and progress, his information is especially valuable. There is no index, but the chapter headings go a long way towards supplying its place.

In lighter vein, for the book is described as "personal impressions after the style of letters between friends both engaged upon the same vital task," is Stephen Graham's *Russia in 1916* (Cassell, 2s. 6d. net). Mr. Graham left England for Ekaterina, *via* Newcastle, Bergen and Vardö, on the night when the first misleading news of the North Sea battle was received, and, of course, stood the chance of being "revised" by the Germans. Owing to circumstances the beginning of the journey was a very unpleasant one, but at Vardö Mr. Graham found that he could there board a boat going to Russia. In this town he was astonished to find a first-class hotel, with electric light and a telephone in each room, even an electric arrangement on the wall for lighting a cigarette! But, as yet, things are different at Alexandrovsk, Russia's new port, where from the end of November to the middle of January the sun never rises, and it would be dark at midday were it not for the snow. Mr. Graham has much of interest to tell of the new port and the connecting railway; of the new Archangel, with ships of the world at anchorage there; of Moscow and the change a year has made in it; and of the high price of food, for which transit difficulties are wholly responsible. Russian literature is of the lighter sort, war literature having almost ceased; the rouble has become greatly depreciated,

but people who have made money during the war can be gay at Kislovodsk. In this fashion he continues his various impressions, amongst other things assuring us that

Rasputin was of no consequence—an extraordinary opinion in the light of recent developments. And so back home, in comfort this time.

THE STREET OF INK, PALMER, AND SHAW.

Mr. H. Simonis' was five years ago one of the directors of the London Company which presides over the fortunes of *The Daily News* and *The Star*, which were launched under the editorship of Charles Dickens on the one hand, and of the ever versatile T. P. O'Connor on the other. After the *Daily News* and *Morning Leader* amalgamation, the paper settled down to a steady half-million copies daily. "The subsequent progress showed an increase of over 50 per cent. compared with that figure," so says Mr. Simonis, and surely he must know. He then starts what he calls "An Intimate History of Journalism," with 80 portraits and other illustrations, under the title of "The Street of Ink," the record of all the papers which live and move and have their being in and around Fleet Street, London. It was a secret history, but the writer seems to have a true catholicity of spirit which enables him to be on the friendliest terms with all sorts of people connected with the Press. The book is dedicated to Ernest Parke, who commenced his career by getting sentenced to imprisonment for having libelled a Peer. Forewords are given by Lord Northcliffe, who began at the bottom with a new kind of penny weekly, and now sits at the top, owning more papers than he can count; and Lord Burnham, whose grandfather could remember when the total value of advertisements in one day's issue brought him in 7/6! Mr. Simonis himself commenced with a capital of 93d., of which he expended 6d. on a telegram to his mother. What can a reviewer do, when confronted with a book like this, except give a qualified approval to a multitude of facts when he is perfectly certain that the whole of them are not quite true? We must positively assert that all journalism does not present such an amiable appearance as do the actors represented on Mr. Simonis's stage. Of our own knowledge, which is of quite an ancient date, there is another tale to be told. Those who care to heed this warning may well read all the stories of shining success and unaccountable failure given in this volume. The book will be a furious success, for there

is hardly one in a hundred of the thousand mentioned as earning glory in that bloodless field who will not buy a copy and stick it in his most prominent bookcase. It is published by Cassell.

Early in the year in which the present war began, an American war correspondent, foreseeing the imminent future, wrote *The Last Shot*, in which he imagined the world in conflict breaking out. So great was the demand for this book in August, 1914, that George Robertson and Co., printed in Melbourne two huge editions of it. The writer, Mr. Frederick Palmer, now brings out *With the New Army on the Somme* (John Murray), in which he describes his second year of the war. It is a terrific picture, and may well be studied by those who could know whether war was "worth while." It consists, of course, mainly of matter which has appeared in the papers for which he wrote (he was the accredited American correspondent at the front), but we may leave him to tell his own tale, complimenting him on his vivid, breezy style. After the war is done, he may have much to say that is now better left unsaid.

Turning from the reality to other subjects, Dr. Richard Burton, American author of some twenty books dealing with the stage, gives us *Bernard Shaw: the Man and the Mask*, which is a useful compilation. He gives thanks to Dr. Archibald Henderson for the use of his biography of Shaw. He certainly makes a heavy draft on his predecessor, and he brings matters up to date. He is quite unconscious of any sense of humour—a severe blow for one who aims at showing Shaw as he is—but that does not matter in this case, for a bald recital of dates, plays, etc., was chiefly needed. It is published at the ordinary 6/- rate by Messrs. Henry Holt and Co., New York, and will be very useful to many who want to keep abreast of Shaw's rapid career. His temporary outburst of "Common Sense About the War" brought him into great disfavour, but in the United States, and especially in New York, his plays have had tremendous runs during the last two years.



A WOMAN'S NOTEBOOK.

CO-OPERATIVE HOMES.

Mrs. Alec Tweedie, in *The English Review*, says that Co-operative Homes will have to come, and on this occasion she is certainly right. The day of the large house is passing in England, as it has already passed in Australia. The domestic difficulty brought this about here, and is hastening it at home. But even the small house demands considerable attention, and the cooking is always a big item. Slowly people are coming to realise that it would be far more efficient, if less secluded, to live in a flat or in a house which shared a kitchen and central heating with others.

In England, especially, towns are made up of rows and rows of dwelling houses all attached to each other.

Suppose there are fifty houses in a row. Every town is made up of rows and rows of houses, each with its own kitchen fire. Fifty houses mean fifty kitchen fires. Fifty pairs of hands to lay and light them. Fifty women to attend to kitchen ovens and flues, hot water and cooking. This is waste. All those fifty houses can be managed from one central kitchen. The middle house in that street must contain the staff. A huge furnace must supply pipes of hot water to twenty-five house-baths on the right and twenty-five on the left. The result, coke (usually cheaper than coal) can be burnt, and far, far less of it will be used. Thereby doing away with the gas-smoke fog that is so depressing, and is caused by hundreds of small chimneys, instead of a few tall ones. The expenses of the individual bath will be reduced 500 per cent., and the water will always be hot. One, or at most, two people, will keep all those fifty houses supplied with constant baths and hot water, and half a dozen or so will do the cooking.

Then again, instead of every house having two or three fireplaces to be cleaned and kept going every day, another furnace will supply central heating to all the houses. The radiators will have taps which can be turned off or on at choice. One fireplace just to "look cheery," and allow the pleasant joys of contemplation and friendly poking, will be all that is required for luxury; but not for necessity.

Although Mrs. Tweedie does not appear to be aware of the fact such co-operative homes have existed in England for several years, and have proved very successful. One is situated in Letchworth Garden City, and is called Homesgarth. It is not on an ambitious scale, but contains the beginnings of all the things Mrs. Tweedie waxes so eloquent about. Central kitchen, domestics supplied when required by the central administration, meals despatched to houses in specially devised wheeltrays, and so on and so forth. Says Mrs. Tweedie:—

With this co-operative bath supply, co-operative central heating and co-operative kitchen, staffs will be enormously reduced and expenses lowered, while the standard is raised. One (or more) domestic in each house will be sufficient. That one can be a house-parlourmaid. Or in the case where no personal maid is required, a "help" can come in for as many hours as required from the Central Administration. Every bedroom will have its hot and cold water taps and waste, and every room will be heated. Result, one personal maid instead of two or three, a much more compact system, good food instead of indifferent cooking, and if a public dining-room, reading-room, and drawing-room are added, even that one maid can be done without and substituted by a few hours' daily attendance. Gas stoves, central heating, and self-serving hot-water taps, vacuum cleaners, co-operative cooking, and part service will make life easier, will save the harassed housewives' temper and digestion, and not part us from our individual homes with their individual little joys and personal treasures. People can live as simply as they like, and if they invite friends will then be able to order a well-cooked dinner and merely keep it warm till served on their own individual little gas or electric stove.

She calls attention to the modern workman's dwelling, which contains dozens of families. It has one common boiler-room which each family can have for a few hours every week, but every workman's wife does her own cooking, good, bad and indifferent, and everyone, with few exceptions;

wastes a large portion of what she might utilise. What is needed there is a central properly managed kitchen.

Hotels will be built with small suites; bedroom, sitting-room, bathroom, and with a private door; magnified according to requirements, and the same thing will expand again into whole suites of apartments, always containing tenants' personal furniture. Some people will go downstairs to the restaurant. Some will have the food brought upstairs, others will cook their favourite dishes on a gas ring or in a chafing dish; but when they want to go away from home they will merely pay the rent, and not have to keep two or three servants, board, wages and washing, to say nothing of fire, light and deterioration of goods, during their absence.

Co-operative housekeeping will be easier, not only for the tenants, but for everyone. A proper steward and manager, whose job is to manage, will have the entree to his own kitchen, which many ladies have not. A chef or good woman cook at the head of affairs will direct those under her instead of each of those "under cooks" wasting good stuff in private homes where they are merely experimenting in cooking. Everything must necessarily be more efficient, under more constant and personal supervision, than under the well-meaning women of position and wealth, who are harassed by the complexity of domestic worries, and who are nothing more or less to-day than edu-

cated charrs. The lady to-day has to know everything. She has to be able to show domestics everything, and instead of being A cook, A housemaid, A parlourmaid, or A nurse, she has to do a good bit of the work for everyone, and think out and supervise the rest of it. She is unpaid and often un-thanked, and generally homebound.

But withal home life must not be allowed to slip away. Home life, though, does not mean living in lodgings or a furnished flat, but in one's own single room or rooms, providing one's own goods and chattels, where everything is one's own; where every little article is associated with a little sentiment, and has a little pride of place attached.

We will apparently live more publicly, because it is cheaper and better; but we will always retire like rabbits to our own warrens, to our own armchairs and writing tables, book-cases, beds and sofas—our own, all our very own. Oh, the joy of these three words, "our very own." In our own room (or rooms) we shall have the privacy so necessary to happiness, to individuality and to home life.

Mrs. Tweedie has a fine subject, but fails to make the most of it, being somewhat disjointed and indefinite, but she has got hold of the right idea.

LITTLE THINGS ABOUT A CAR.

The Ladies' Home Journal contains a very useful little article concerning what every woman who drives a car ought to know. The first thing she ought to understand is that a motor car is after all a piece of machinery made of metal!

The first need of all metal machinery in which various parts move in contact is *oil* or *grease*. Therefore the first thing every woman car owner should do is to study the oiling system of her car, which she will find in the instruction book that "comes with it."

Even if the car is cared for in a public garage but is still woman-driven, it is well for the woman driver to be familiar with what may be called the machine's essential surface requirements.

Keep all the little grease cups filled with grease, and give each cup half a turn or a turn to the right each day before driving; lift up the hood each morning, and if the gauge on the oil tank shows a low supply of oil pour in enough oil to register "full"; each morning fill the radiator with

water, for all cars are thirsty sometimes; every ten days unscrew the little rubber caps on the top of the battery and pour in enough *distilled* water to cover the metal plates that you can see down in the battery.

A hydrometer, which looks like a thermometer and has a rubber bulb at the end, is a good thing to have. Following the simple directions for its use, which will come with it, will tell you at all times just the condition of each cell of your battery. With an air tire gauge you will be able to tell just how much air should be in your tires—sixty-five pounds in the average car likely to be driven by a woman is enough.

And always before starting out you should test the amount of air in the spare tire, if it is carried blown up. This may save you the bother attendant upon discovering that the air in your "spare" has leaked out since you blew it up.

Man drivers almost always give the average woman driver whom they encounter all the room she seems inclined to take. This is no doubt due to the average man's in-

instinctive sense that a car is a machine, and to his belief that the woman has not yet differentiated a motor from a horse and carriage. In the latter case a good deal could be left to the horse, but no motor car has yet been invented that can turn out of itself.

A motor's mind is its driver's mind, and not its engine's. Let woman drivers get this firmly into their consciousness, and man motorists will cease driving into the ditch and stopping when they see a car coming driven by a woman.

If every woman driver would observe the following rules every man driver would smile instead of scowl:—Never overtake and pass a car on a curve, the extension of which cannot be clearly seen. Never overtake and pass a car on the rise of a hill. Never forget that a horn is made to horn. On country roads and in residence streets, keep your eyes one hundred and fifty feet ahead of your car. Never throw out your clutch and put on your brakes on a wet pavement or road; put your brake on gradually with your clutch still engaged; then, when you've slowed down, throw out your clutch quickly and drop into second speed. Better go down a steep hill that you don't know, or that is slippery, in second, or even first, than in third or to coast down it. Never swing beyond the middle of the street on your right when turning a corner. There may be another car coming, and if you take too much space a collision is likely to result.

Parallel with the enormous growth of motor car use has proceeded the manufacture of what are known as accessories, generally non-mechanical; few perhaps absolutely essential to the average motoring woman, but most of them "nice to have" at least. Here are a few of the newer:—

Silk pillows fashioned to fit the backs of auxiliary seats in the tonneaus; extension pedals permitting short women to reach clutch and brake at the proper leg angle; silk head pillows for riders in the rear seat of a touring car; side lights to be fastened to the windshield support to light the side of the road in night driving; trunks built to fit on the running board forward over the mud guard, and that hold almost as much as a steamer trunk or small-sized wardrobe trunk; coats for drivers, cleverly fashioned at the lower hem with two slip-on slippers so that the movement of the feet

is not impeded; folding luncheon tables that slip down behind the rug rail in the tonneau; a tonneau foot rail that is really a foot warmer, as the hot exhaust gas passes through it; night-seeing watches that clamp to the steering post; an electric cooker that starts cooking with the car current and finishes it on the fireless-cooker plan; electric safety-first signal worn on the back of the hand that shows a ruby light at night when the driver's arm is extended at the side of the car; air pillows covered to match coats; folding oil stoves; folding oven, grate and water bucket that all go into a flat canvas pocket; rolled-top folding lunch table and flat folding chairs.

The variety is almost without limit.

As has been said, the internal mechanism of the average motor car is as close to "fool proof" as human ingenuity can make it. But, as appearance is a large factor in the joy of motoring, it behoves every car owner to look to keeping the outside of the car spick and span. A new car should never be soaped; clear *cold* water is the best bath always, if the "piano finish" is to be preserved. Moreover, do not use a nozzle on the water hose, and do not direct the stream squarely at the part of the body being washed, but slantingly.

Of course an alkali soap may be used in washing grease, tar and road "dirt" from the chassis, but do not use it on the body of the car; use only a Castile soap there, and that sparingly. Moreover, have two chamois skins, one for the chassis drying and one for the body, and keep them for just that; never use them interchangeably.

In cold weather do not take out a freshly washed car until it is thoroughly dry, else the varnish may crack; and it is best not to wash a car in the bright sun, as it will be likely to dry "spotty" from too quick drying. To clean the top, brush it stiffly first, and then use either a sponge or a soft brush with Castile soap and *clean* lukewarm water. Never fold back the top, after washing, till it is entirely dry. About the best treatment for leather upholstery is to go over it on occasion with a soft woollen cloth damped in clean water containing a very slight amount of ammonia.

If you will do all this you will have the joy of knowing that your car looks well, and you will also make money, for at the end of the year the car's second-hand value will be higher than it otherwise would be.

DISCOVERIES



Enamel Saucepans.

If new enamel saucepans are placed in a pan of warm water, allowed to come to the boil, and then cool, they will be found to last much longer before either cracking or burning.—N.L.

Milk to Put Out Fire.

We have found this remedy invaluable when the fat in the drip-pan of the gas ranges catches fire. Pour a small quantity of milk directly on the flame. Often a large spoonful will instantly quench a pan of fat when burning fiercely. This is due to the milk cooking immediately and forming a blanket.—M.L.

Preventing Mold.

Cut hams may be kept from molding if the cut end is wet with vinegar each time after cutting.

Mosquito-Netting for a Darn.

A piece of mosquito-netting, basted over a bad hole in a stocking, will be found a great aid in darning.

Suet for Red-Ink Stain.

To remove red-ink stains from white goods, pour melted suet over the stain and let it stand for twenty-four hours. Then wash in lukewarm water with a good white soap, gradually increasing the temperature of the water until hot enough to take out the grease. This leaves the material snowy white.

To Thicken Milk for Custard.

Custards need not always be made of eggs, as there are three other ways of thickening them. To thicken a quart of milk for custard use either one junket tablet, one dessertspoonful of rennet, six dessertspoonfuls of cornstarch or four eggs. Add the required amount of any of these to one quart of warm milk and sweeten it with from a-quarter of a cupful to one cupful of sugar. For the junket custard, first brown the sugar in a saucepan, which adds a caramel taste and colour. When cornstarch is used six teaspoonfuls of cocoa or one square of melted chocolate added will make a

chocolate custard or pudding. Substituting half a cupful of any fruit juice for the same amount of milk, or adding fresh fruit when it is in season, makes another pleasing variation.

A Mayonnaise Short Cut.

If all of the materials are cold and no excess of oil is added—only one cupful of oil being used to one egg yolk—there will be no trouble with this dressing's separating. Place in a cold bowl one egg yolk, pepper, mustard and four tablespoonfuls of vinegar, and lemon juice—or either alone as preferred—and beat with a wheel egg-beater. Gradually add the oil, not drop by drop, but in small quantities at first and later more rapidly. If a thick dressing is desired use less of the acid ingredient—the vinegar or the lemon juice. If a double quantity of the dressing is desired one whole egg instead of two egg yolks may be used. Do not add the salt until ready to serve the dressing, as sometimes this seems to make the dressing separate.

Veal Cutlet.

To prepare a veal cutlet that fairly "melts in your mouth" is an art worth your attention. First cut the veal into small pieces and dip it as usual in bread crumbs, beaten egg and again in bread crumbs; brown the cutlet in one tablespoonful of butter, pour over it the brown cutlet sauce, and allow it to simmer for about an hour and a-half, or until tender. The sauce is made as follows:—Quarter tablespoonful of butter, half tablespoonful of flour, eighth teaspoonful of salt, half cupful of stock or water, quarter teaspoonful of table sauce, quarter tablespoonful of chopped parsley. Prepare as any brown sauce, by browning the butter, adding the dry ingredients and blending well. Remove from the fire, and add a small quantity of the liquid. Blend well, and add the remainder of the liquid. Return to the fire and let it boil for one minute. Remove; add the table sauce and parsley, and pour the brown sauce over the cutlet.

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS QUARTER.

During March last Great Britain loaned £40,000,000 to Roumania at par.

Cotton prices have shown an advance of over 200 per cent. in two years, the increase since the beginning of 1917 being about 70 per cent.

Since the beginning of the war France has borrowed £157,000,000 from United States of America, of which sum £18,000,000 has been paid off.

For the first two months of 1917 the value of British imports was 13.4 per cent. higher than in 1916. Net imports were 15.3 per cent. larger and exports 15.1 per cent. greater.

The Executive Power in Argentina has authorised an internal loan of three millions sterling, the proceeds of which are to be employed in the purchase of seed for agriculturists for the next harvests.

The British Government refused (in the public interest) to supply the House of Commons with a statement showing the percentage of grain and flour lost en route for Britain.

From July 1st the transit dues of the Suez Canal will be increased from 7.75 francs to 8.50 francs per metric ton for ships with cargo, and from 5.25 francs to 6 francs for ships in ballast.

The National Debt of Canada at the end of January was estimated at approximately £149,000,000, as compared with £123,000,000 on March 31, 1916, £89,800,000 on March 31, 1915, and £67,000,000 in 1914.

Dr. Macnamara stated recently in the House of Commons that it was approximately correct to say that of the 505,000 tons of shipping lost in February last, one-half were British and one-half neutral and Allied.

According to the *Board of Trade Labour Gazette*, retail food prices in Britain on March 1st last were 92 per cent. higher

than on July 1st, 1914, which means that a person has now to pay 39/5 for what could be purchased for a sovereign before the war.

The recent potato harvest in Ireland showed a decline of over 250,000 tons, or 34.4 per cent. when compared with the 1915 crop, as a result of a decrease, both in acreage and in yield. The decrease in the crops in England, Wales and Scotland were estimated at 12.3 per cent., 13.8 per cent., and 45.4 per cent. respectively.

If a hundred years ago, when the estimated income of the country was no more than £250,000,000 a year, we were able calmly to face a debt of £800,000,000 at the end of the struggle, which concluded with the battle of Waterloo, it will not be beyond our power with a pre-war income ten times as great to deal a year hence with a net debt in the neighbourhood of £4,500,000,000. (*The Statist*.)

An increase in the note issue of the Bank of Spain has been authorised by a decree published in Madrid about three months ago. The issue, under no circumstances whatever, must exceed 3000 million pesetas, or 120 millions sterling. If the issue at any time exceeds 2500 millions pesetas, or 100 millions sterling, there must be kept a reserve in gold equal to the excess over 100 millions sterling.

When the last mail left London a food register was to be compiled by the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society Ltd., Woolwich. Accompanying the circular sent to the members was a table which they were requested to fill in, showing the number of persons in the household under and over 16 years old, the weekly minimum household requirements, and the weekly quantity bought from the society. Already the sale of sugar and potatoes had been restricted to members only, and if the necessity arose the same principle would be applied to the sale of all other articles of food.

The French Commission on Agriculture has proposed some marked changes in the Bill for the encouragement of wheat-grow-

ing in France. The Bill proposed to raise the premium granted for increasing the area under wheat from three to five francs per quintal. In addition it is proposed to give a premium of 20 francs for each new hectare sown. The commission recommended that the premium for encouraging the growth of wheat be raised from three to seven francs.

The world's production of silver in 1914 was 211,000,000 ozs., worth approximately £26,000,000, or about six times the amount produced in 1859, 45 years previous. Of the total, North America produced 170, South America 13, Europe 15, Asia 6, Australasia 4, and Africa 1 million ozs., the Americas thus producing about nine-tenths of the supply. Usually, about two-thirds of the world's production is absorbed by Asia.

In an interesting address delivered by Mr. Benjamin White, Fellow of the Economic Society of Britain, the speaker stated that in the Middle Ages silver was derived from Great Britain, France, Austria and Germany. The beautiful colour called Saxony blue was made from the cobalt mines of the latter country. Three subsequent great epochs might be noted: First, the Spanish discovery of the great mineral wealth of Mexico and Peru about the year 1520. Secondly, the discovery in 1859 of the Comstock Lode in Nevada. So much silver was yielded that, coincident as the event was with the discovery of the gold in California, bimetallism had to be abandoned, that is to say, the free coinage of both metals at a fixed relation to each other had to be given up. The Anaconda mine, in Nevada, is the largest producing mine to-day; its annual output is 9,000,000 ozs. Thirdly, in 1904, as a new railway was being driven through part of Ontario, traces of silver were discovered in a railway cutting. Within a few years from an area of only 50 miles in diameter, 30,000,000 ozs. of silver were mined in one year alone.

One of the imposts which the latest Emergency Revenue Bill in America has considerably increased is the transfer or inheritance tax, a levy familiar to us here as the probate duty. Formerly the tax was left to the States, whose exclusive prerogative it was tacitly assumed to be. Last

September, however, it was introduced as a Federal measure, the rate being two per cent. on estates ranging from 50,000 dollars to 150,000 dollars, and rising to 10 per cent. on those exceeding 5,000,000 dollars. The tax has been found so convenient and remunerative an impost that the outside rates have now been increased to 3 per cent. and 15 per cent. respectively. Residence in certain States gives a decided advantage over other States, the lowest amount payable in any State in the case of estates worth 10,000,000 dollars is 1,336,485 dollars in North Carolina, and up to 2,710,650 in California. In other words, out of a fortune of 10,000,000 dollars, the sum to be paid over to the combined Governments in the case of the different States ranges from 1,336,500 dollars to 2,710,700 dollars.

Speculators in the Liverpool Cotton Exchange were "running riot" recently when the British authorities wisely stepped in and forbade any more "gambling" in "futures," but before that action was taken quotations had soared to heights previously untouched, a disquieting outlook for everyone when the high ruling rates for that other indispensable commodity—wool—are taken into consideration. The principal factor in connection with the upward trend of prices for cotton was the U.S.A. official report, indicating the lowest point recorded for any May crop in the States. The setback experienced in May was promptly reflected in the Liverpool market, where the quotation for good middling "American" rose 40 points in one day. Since the closing months of last year, there have been sudden and substantial fluctuations in prices. In the second week in February last a movement of 45 points was recorded, despite the operation of a scheme which had been designed specially to prevent market disturbances resulting from wild speculations in future.

Mr. Holman has been informing London audiences that Australia is prepared to continue sacrificing itself in order that the war may be prosecuted to a successful issue—and the same Mr. Holman is in London on a mission which may be vulgarly described as "cadging" on behalf of the State of which he is Premier; in order that New South Wales might pay it way!

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One Dose of this Wonderful Remedy will very often prove sufficient if taken at the commencement of a Cold; but the class of case that HEARNE'S fairly REVELS IN is one that the ORDINARY remedies have failed to make any impression upon. Herein lies the REAL VALUE of HEARNE'S BRONCHITIS CURE—a Medicine that can be given with PERFECT SAFETY and the UTMOST CONFIDENCE to the YOUNGEST CHILDREN and very AGED SUFFERERS, as it does NOT contain, and has NEVER contained any poison or harmful drugs.

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PEOPLE ENTHUSIASTIC OVER "CRYSTOLIS." THE REAL HAIR GROWER
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Itching Scalp. Restores Grey and Faded Hair to Natural Colour and Brilliancy.

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Feb. 28, 1916.

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"Sydney, N.S.W.

"Dear Sirs,—

"My hair has grown three inches from when I started to use Crystolis up to the date of my last letter, as a result of your six weeks' treatment. I had an itching scalp, but Crystolis stopped this itching within a week. I was talking with a friend who also was using Crystolis, and who had a lot of dandruff in her hair. Since she has been using Crystolis there is no sign of dandruff now. You can see for yourself what I think about your Crystolis.

"Yours truly,

"(Miss) E. BATTERHAM."

Here at last is a true hair grower distributed on trial on a positive guarantee of satisfaction or its use does not cost you a farthing. Crystolis is guaranteed to grow hair on YOUR head however thin-haired; to stop hair from falling out, to drive out dandruff, to make thin, short, scant hair grow thick and long; to make oily, matted, stringy hair, or dull, dry, dead-looking hair, soft, glossy, fluffy and beautiful. It must do this or it is free.

And hundreds and hundreds of people—men and women—living all over Australasia, America, and Europe, say it has done these things for them, and they give Crystolis all the praise.

We have secured the sole Australasian rights for this great American hair treatment, which has been awarded gold medals at the Brussels, Paris, and Rome exhibitions, and we have been amazed at the glowing reports our patrons have given. People say they were bald for years, but now glory in their beautiful, abundant hair. They tell how, with a few applications, dandruff disappeared, how hair stopped falling out, and new hair came in less than 30 days' time.

No matter what YOUR form of hair trouble; how long you have been bald, no matter how badly your hair is falling, or how many treatments you may have tried, we want to send you some of these wonderful letters to read yourself—we want you to try Crystolis at our risk.

We give you a binding guarantee, without any "strings" or red tape, that Crystolis must produce a new hair growth for you—make your hair grow long, thick, and abundant, and give you entire satisfaction, or Crystolis will be free. We are a responsible, reliable, and established concern, and have plenty of money to back up

this guarantee, and have deposited £200 in our Sydney bank, which we will forfeit if in any instance we fail to comply with the plain terms of this contract.

DON'T PUT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ASIDE. YOU MAY LOSE IT, OR FORGET IT. CUT OUT THE COUPON AND POST IT, AND LET US PROVE WHAT CRYSTOLIS CAN DO IN YOUR OWN CASE. DO THIS AT ONCE—TO-DAY!

"Grey Hair Assumes Natural Colour."

(Mrs. Jennie V. Wriston.)

My hair was falling out, and in one place it had become bald. I used Crystolis as directed, and in four weeks' time a new growth of hair had begun to come. I am still using Crystolis, and my grey hair is assuming its natural colour. I am 61 years old. Crystolis has also stopped the hair from falling out. I consider it a perfect treatment.

"Was Bald for Five Years. Scalp Shiny."

(George Klump.)

For five years I had a bald spot on the top of my head, shiny as a looking-glass. I tried all kinds of hair restorers, but received no benefit. It was, therefore, a surprise to me after using Crystolis for some weeks that the shiny, bald spot was gradually disappearing, and I discovered a fuzz all over the bald spot. This fuzz has now developed into real hair. I shall certainly continue the use of Crystolis.

"Inch of New Hair in 42 Days."

(Miss Cora Simpson.)

For several years I was troubled with dandruff, and close to the head the hair seemed very oily, while towards the ends it was harsh and brittle. After seeing Crystolis so highly spoken of I decided to try it, and I can truthfully say that it does exactly as recommended. In fourteen days my head was free from dandruff. In six weeks I had new hair growing more than an inch in length. The old, dry, dead look had gone, and the hair was soft and silky looking.

FREE COUPON.

THE CRESLO LABORATORIES,
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yard Square, Sydney.

I am a reader of STEAD'S REVIEW (Melbourne). Prove to me without cost how Crystolis stops falling hair, grows new hair, banishes dandruff, and itching scalp, and restores premature grey and faded hair to natural colour. Write your name and address plainly and PIN THIS COUPON INSIDE YOUR LETTER.

ESPERANTO NOTES.

In his last annual address to the University Senate, the Chancellor, Sir Robert Stout, of New Zealand, in recommending an increase in the number of languages that may qualify for a degree, said:—"Perhaps the day may not be so distant as it at present appears when one language will be used for all commercial dealings, just as Latin was once the language of all learned, and French was, and is now, mainly used for diplomatic correspondence between nations. We have such a language in Esperanto, and the suggestion has been made that it should be the language of commerce. If this suggestion were adopted, commercial correspondence would become easy, and our commercial men would not have to acquire several modern languages, and, further, one step forward would have been taken in promoting the brotherhood of man."

Le Chrétien Libre (March-April issue) contains an article entitled "Catholics and Esperanto." Really it is an appeal to Protestants and other Churches to make more use of Esperanto in disseminating their ideals in the same energetic manner as the Roman Catholics, who make full use of it, and have several Esperanto periodicals. In the same number an article headed, "A Convert Through Esperanto," quotes a letter from M. Henry van Etten, who says: "It was through the reading in Esperanto of 'Quaker Strongholds,' by Caroline Stephen, that I learned the truth. Although I know the language, it is nearly impossible for me to read this book in English owing to the difficulty of its style."

During the past few months the interest of the Russian public in Esperanto has greatly increased. In Kirsanov 100 Austrian military captives are learning Esperanto. The same thing is happening at Barnaul Camp. The introduction of Esperanto into the schools of the Odessa district has been authorised by the educational authorities. Many schools immediately availed themselves of the permission. Esperanto has been taught in the commercial classes at Astrachan under authority of the Department of Commerce and Industry for the past five years. The news kiosks of the South-West and Galician Railways now stock Esperanto text-books. This was due to the increasing demand. A local bookseller at Koslov always has a selection of

Esperanto books in his windows. He sold 300 books in six months.

The Society Putnik, which conducts a business in Russia similar to Thos. Cook and Sons, is a wealthy and extensive concern. It has a staff of Esperanto conductors, stocks Esperanto literature, and avails itself of facilities open to those with a knowledge of the language. A Moscow firm dealing in photographic materials, has adopted the Esperanto word LUMO, meaning light, as its trade name, and announces that its correspondence is conducted in Russian and Esperanto.

The most widely circulated Russian Medical Gazette, *The Russkij Vrac*, regularly prints a summary in Esperanto of the original articles appearing in its columns. Thus Esperanto doctors in all parts of the world can keep abreast of the latest developments in Russian medical circles.

The following is the translation of a letter which recently appeared in a French Esperanto paper:—"Three weeks ago a Russian soldier appeared in our trenches. He had been interned in Germany for eleven months. As he was weak and ill, he was placed in a hospital near where I was stationed. As soon as I heard of it I hastened to visit my Russian brother, hoping to find that he was an Esperantist; but, alas, he was not acquainted with our language. Notwithstanding this I did not despair. I again visited him, and gave him a halfpenny grammar in Russian and Esperanto, and an Esperanto Red Cross Guide. Ivan, that was his name, became very much interested. In four days he could understand—and make himself understood. Those who saw this were greatly surprised, and some asked me for Esperanto books to learn from. A week passed, and Ivan had to depart. What a pity he could not have stayed a few weeks longer! It was great pleasure for me when walking together to speak the Zamenhof language with him, and to be admired by all; for no one here knows Russian, consequently it could not be gleaned from Ivan how he escaped from Germany except from his elementary Esperanto. When going away he promised to write to me, and said that when he gets to Russia he will induce his two brothers, his parents, and his wife to learn Esperanto."



NATIONAL EFFICIENCY

GERMAN EDUCATIONAL METHODS.

By J. A. BUTLER.

Those who remember the late Alexander Sutherland, of Melbourne, will recognise that if it were possible to place each large school in Australia in charge of a schoolmaster like him, and to man the teaching staffs with instructors of the same type, the task of the Education Departments, which is to fit our youths for the nation's work, would be a simple one. Such men and women would be the pick of the community as regards brain power, without reckoning the other attributes for inspiring boys and girls to learn, and for inculcating high ethics.

THE TEACHER'S IMPORTANCE.

This problem of personnel in our teaching machinery was touched on feelingly by the late Dr. Pearson, when Minister of Education in Victoria, about the year 1890. In conversation with a deputation of schoolmasters, he bewailed the fact that the teachers were among the lowest paid members of the public service, whereas they ought to be the highest. Dr. Pearson denounced this state of affairs as stupid, seeing that the formation of the plastic minds of our young had to be entrusted to the instructors the department was able to secure. It certainly looks as if improvements had since been made in the inducements offered to capable young men and women to become State school teachers. Still, it is unlikely that their chances in the Education Department, combined with the attractiveness of the work, would compare to advantage with those offered in some of the other Government offices, and if this is so there can be no hesitation in saying the position is wrong.

Much, of course, can be done by the selection of serviceable curricula, and the provision of good equipment in schools, wise systems of promotion, and so forth, whether the object be humanistic culture or the fitting of youths to do "some definite thing" that will be wanted in their future work. The crux of the whole educational

position, however, must be the instructors who have charge of the children while their brains are developing. As this period extends to at least 17 years of age, and as brain formation is greatest from the age of about 14 to 17, there are three essentials for the educationist to bear in mind. He must attract to his teaching staffs teachers who have sufficient intelligence and mental alertness to be quick in the up-take of how to sustain the interest of the class, and how to make the children remember what is being told them at the moment. Live sympathy with the efforts of young scholars is naturally a *sine qua non*. The educationist must then see to it that this teaching staff is efficiently taught, and he must further strive to have the schooling of all children continued, if only for a few hours a week, during the important years from 14 to 17. At this vital period the great bulk of Australia's future citizens are torn violently away from all touch with the informative and moral influences they have been under in school, and the result is painfully apparent even to the most myopic.

FINDING AND TRAINING TEACHERS.

English and American investigators who have studied the school systems of their own country and of Germany, have no hesitation in giving the palm to the Germans as schoolmasters. The national discipline instilled into the scholars by their parents, and by their entire environment must help, but a brief description of the German method of selecting and training teachers will show there is a good deal besides the obedient docility of the child to account for the finished product at the age of 17. The ordinary school age in Germany is 6 to 14, or in some cases 15, but for the most part attendance at continuation schools up to 17 years of age, for one hour a day is compulsory, wherever such attendance is reasonably convenient. If at the age of 14 a boy is picked out as one of the best pupils in his school, and if he can pass a very severe

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SPECIFIC FOR

Catarrhal Inflammation

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THE GREAT JAPANESE TREATMENT

Dr. Ito Iwasaki is the Japanese Specialist who to-day ranks as one of the world's greatest physicians, and his name is known and respected wherever Japanese is spoken. It is the only treatment used in the East, and this is the first time it has been offered for sale outside Japan.

The Iwasaki Specific produces an amazing cleansing action, leaving the whole of the mucous membrane absolutely free from catarrhal poisons. It is the only treatment that possesses the power of performing this

important cleansing operation, doing what the surgeon's knife cannot possibly accomplish. It reaches into the cavities, removes the thickening from the turbinated bones, cleanses the openings and the tubes leading to the cavities, and its remarkable influence spreads to and clears out the eustachian tubes. It leaves the mucous membrane in a perfectly healthy condition, and PERMANENTLY eliminates the whole of the catarrhal poisons. It will do this in the most chronic case of Catarrh that ever existed.

There is no medicine to take. The Treatment which is taken into the system through the shortest way, the nostrils, produces an amazing cleansing action, and leaves the whole of the mucous membrane absolutely free from every kind of impurity. It is, in fact, the only specific that has been found to possess the power of performing this highly important cleansing operation, and does what the surgeon's knife cannot possibly reach to do.

It Will Speedily Remove and Cure

Severe Cold in the Head.
Blocked Nasal Passages.
Loss of Smell or Taste.
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All Discharges from Nose.

Noises in the Head and Ears.
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The many ingredients comprising the Treatment are very rare and can only be produced at certain seasons of the year. They are costly to manufacture after they are grown, and require scientific knowledge in their production.

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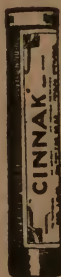
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physical examination, he can be admitted into a training seminary for teachers. This, however, means that at the age of 14 he has to give distinct evidence of being very exceptional both in physique and in scholarship. It must be admitted that such a physical examination would rule out at the beginning many excellent schoolmasters, but the aim is to find fit men for a routine service, under prescribed conditions, which might not be possible for many able men who in many parts of the world, have established their own schools under conditions which suited a weak constitution. The school teacher in Germany becomes one of the most influential men in his community, and care is taken to have him recognised everywhere as a thorough scholar. After leaving the ordinary school he receives six years teaching in a training school, interspersed with one year as a practical teacher. The expense of his training is for the most part borne by the State.

He has to serve two years in the army, but while doing so he is accorded extraordinary recognition by the officers. Since a large proportion of the male population of Germany serve in the army the habit of respecting the schoolmaster is acquired under the influence of the recognition the army officers are observed to show him. But the importance attached to the profession which moulds the youth into useful citizens does not stop here. The teacher's prominence in Germany is increased by the fact that he holds his position for life, as in Victoria, but in Germany he also receives a pension from the State after his days of service are over. In England ordinary teachers are paid less than the equivalent units in other walks of life, but in Germany they are paid more. Although salaries in the commercial world and in practically all other vocations in Germany are much lower than in England, the average teacher in Germany is better paid than the average teacher in England. The German teacher's wife and children are also pensioned by the State.

CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

In the people's or elementary schools, which are free, and are attended by 97 per cent. of the children of school age, the pupils are given ordinary scholastic education up to their fourteenth year. They then leave the ordinary school and enter their apprenticeship or other work for three years at a wage varying from about three to six shillings a week. In some cases to learn a desirable trade an apprentice works for nothing or pays a premium. Without ap-

prenticeship papers, an artisan, or even a clerk, might find it difficult later on to find a situation in his Fatherland. Moreover, there is keen competition for work in the different trades, and once a youngster has decided on his calling, he has not much chance of changing to another, as he would have in Australia. One reason for this—the skill of a man at his own trade—is perhaps a good point in the German system, for the tendency in Germany is to see that each apprentice learns his job. The employer, of course, gets a lot of cheap labour from the rigorous apprenticeship customs, but he has to give the apprentice time off during the day for three years to attend a continuation school for some 240 hours a year, that is, six hours a week for 40 weeks each year. At least this is generally the case, although compulsory attendance at continuation schools is not universal throughout the Empire. Twelve out of the twenty-six States impose the obligation in respects of all boys, and in four States the girls are included. In the other States most of the larger towns by local enactment have similar compulsory provisions passed under the Imperial Trade Regulations. The compulsory number of hours per week for continuation classes varies in different States, from four to nine. If an apprentice is absent from the class a policeman calls on the employer with a demand forthwith for something like a 20s. fine, and collects the money then and there, unless the employer cares to risk the expense of taking the matter to a court. It is inadvisable to go into court with any specious excuses, and the quibblers quickly cease from quibbling. The development of these continuation schools was due to a feeling that the mental horizon of the masses should be enlarged beyond what the people's schools up to the age of 14 were able to give, this chiefly in the interests of national economic efficiency. Throughout Germany there are, as is well known, excellent technical schools that have been established by municipal, guild, or corporate initiative. Attendance at one of these schools, more closely connected with the calling he has taken up, excuses the pupil from the continuation school, but the employer is still responsible for seeing that the apprentice attends the trade institution.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS.

In lower continuation commercial schools—that is the continuation of the elementary schools—during the first year, three hours a week are usually given to commercial sci-

ence, with German and correspondence, two hours to arithmetic and one to geography. In the second year one hour is cut from commercial science and devoted to book-keeping; in fact, this is done in the first year in some cases. In the third year two hours are provided for bookkeeping by also docking an hour a week from arithmetic. Poor writers may be compelled at any time to come an additional hour for penmanship. In some instances an hour is taken from commercial science or bookkeeping and allotted to shorthand.

The official regulations enjoin that "topics of instruction must always be selected so as to further the fundamental purpose of the school, to co-operate in ministering to the pupils' subsequent life and vocational interests, and to enhance the pleasure derived from work. A proper limitation of the material presented to pupils is highly desirable. An excess of topics which cannot be assimilated through lack of time is to be deplored. Only so much material is to be brought before the class as may be thoroughly assimilated and mastered, allowing adequate time for practical application and reviews. As far as possible problems should be given which draw upon the pupil's own experience, and which would actually be encountered in their everyday work. The aim must ever be to free the pupils from the leading strings of the teacher, and to spur them on so as to make them capable of independent further self-development at the close of the school course." As a matter of fact, many of the commercial teachers are so well versed in business routine that they obtain from one or two boys in the class instances of actual work they have been engaged on during the week in their offices, and enlarge on these as the subjects of the lesson.

PRACTICAL SCHOOL WORK.

Dr. F. E. Farrington, of Columbia University, U.S.A., in his book, "Commercial Education in Germany," thus describes a geography lesson in a Munich continuation class: "Commercial geography as taught here is real geography of commerce. It ranks with arithmetic, business correspondence, and citizenship, as the most consistently followed subject of the course. For the first year the German Empire provides the material for study. Land and water area, climate, agricultural resources, population, political divisions, important seaports, foreign shipping and inland commerce, important railways, and industry

cover most of the topics treated. Although the acquisition of facts occupies a large place, *it is all accompanied with extremely good didactic work on the teacher's part.* One lesson that I heard in this school was a remarkably inspiring and instructive discussion on the progress of German industrial development, especially during the last sixty years. The only text in the hands of the pupil was one of those incomparable German commercial atlases containing fewer than fifty pages. Other European countries occupy the time during the second year, and the remainder of the world during the third year. At this latter period the work of the German consular service abroad forms an important topic for consideration." When it is remembered that nearly all boys who start in a commercial establishment at the age of 14, are kept in touch with this kind of influence, from able and sympathetic teachers, one hour or more a day, during their first three years in an office, the benefit to the business work of the community can be imagined.

The bookkeeping lesson is just as interesting. After preliminary work in the second year, the pupils are instructed during the third year, for two hours each week, in the use of the various account books, and the work is so selected that all ordinarily possible transactions of business shall occur several times throughout the progress of the work. Each pupil has a complete set of books and is required to open and close them frequently during the course. Dr. Farrington mentions a school he visited in South Germany where each pupil received a mimeographed list of thirteen transactions purporting to cover the business of one month. During a two and a-half hours' lesson, an entire set of books was opened and the entries completed. According to directions given at the close of the class period, the books were to be closed next time and the balance-sheet made out. Dr. Farrington concludes: "This might seem like hurried and superficial work, but the principles involved were so varied that anybody who could do this correctly would be quite able to keep a set of books for any ordinary business. Each transaction was discussed, somebody was called upon to suggest the proper entry, and then each one in the class made it. The fact that the pupils themselves, rather than the teacher, indicated the step to be taken, saved the process from being purely mechanical. The teacher assured himself that the pupils knew what entry they were going to make, and why."

Where Will You Be at 65?

FIVE men in six at the age of 65 are living on charity. Just one man in twenty is able to live without working at 65.

That's what the American Bankers Association found when it took one hundred healthy men at twenty-five, and traced them to sixty-five.

These hundred were healthy to start with. They had the same chance. The difference lay in the way they used their chances, their health and their brains.

At sixty-five will you be dependent or independent? Will you still be struggling for a living, accepting charity from somebody else? Or will you be at the top of the heap?

Protect yourself now against disaster later on. Make sure that when you are older you will be master of your destiny. Learn to use your chances right through the

Course in Personal Efficiency

HARRINGTON EMERSON learned from practical experience what Personal Efficiency means. He thought Efficiency for fifty years, he taught it for forty years, for twenty years he slowly collected the data for this course, and through this course he has prepared, you can learn how to control your future, how to make a success in spite of all conditions, how to keep your health and strength while you are doing it.

In 1915 twenty-two thousand business houses went to the wall, and nearly every one of them could have been saved. Ninety-five men in one hundred who go into business fail.

Do THEY Need Efficiency?

You yourself work harder than you should, and you get less for your work than you should. The days and months and years are passing, and you are growing older.

Do YOU Need Efficiency?

You do. You need Efficiency to fight against the flying years.

PERSONAL EFFICIENCY marks the sole difference between the concern that goes to the wall after years of heart-rending struggle, and the one that succeeds in placing its product in every nook and corner of the country.

PERSONAL EFFICIENCY is the difference between success and failure; between wealth and poverty, power and weakness. It is the difference between the £3 a week clerk and the £1000 a year executive.

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14 Chapters — In Colours — Illustrated

Send for this book. It contains the answer to the ever-present question of "Where is the money coming from?" Some of the chapters:—WHAT IS EFFICIENCY?

FOR WHOM IS EFFICIENCY? HOW ARE YOU TAUGHT EFFICIENCY? ARE YOU EAR-MINDED OR EYE-MINDED?

FIND OUT WHAT YOU ARE ACTUALLY DOING WITH YOUR TIME. MOST FAILURES ARE DUE TO GUESS-WORK. YOU USE ONLY HALF YOUR POWER. TO WHAT DO SOME MEN OWE THEIR SUCCESS? HEALTH CULTURE. PERSONAL FINANCES. MR. EMERSON'S MESSAGE TO YOU.

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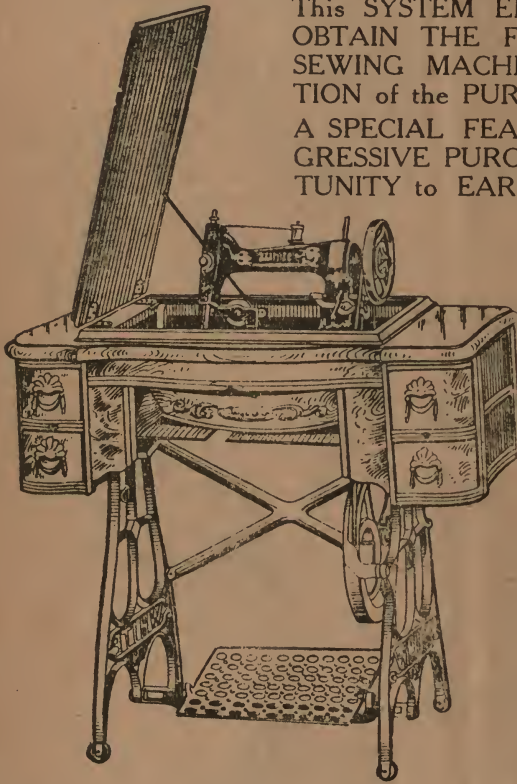
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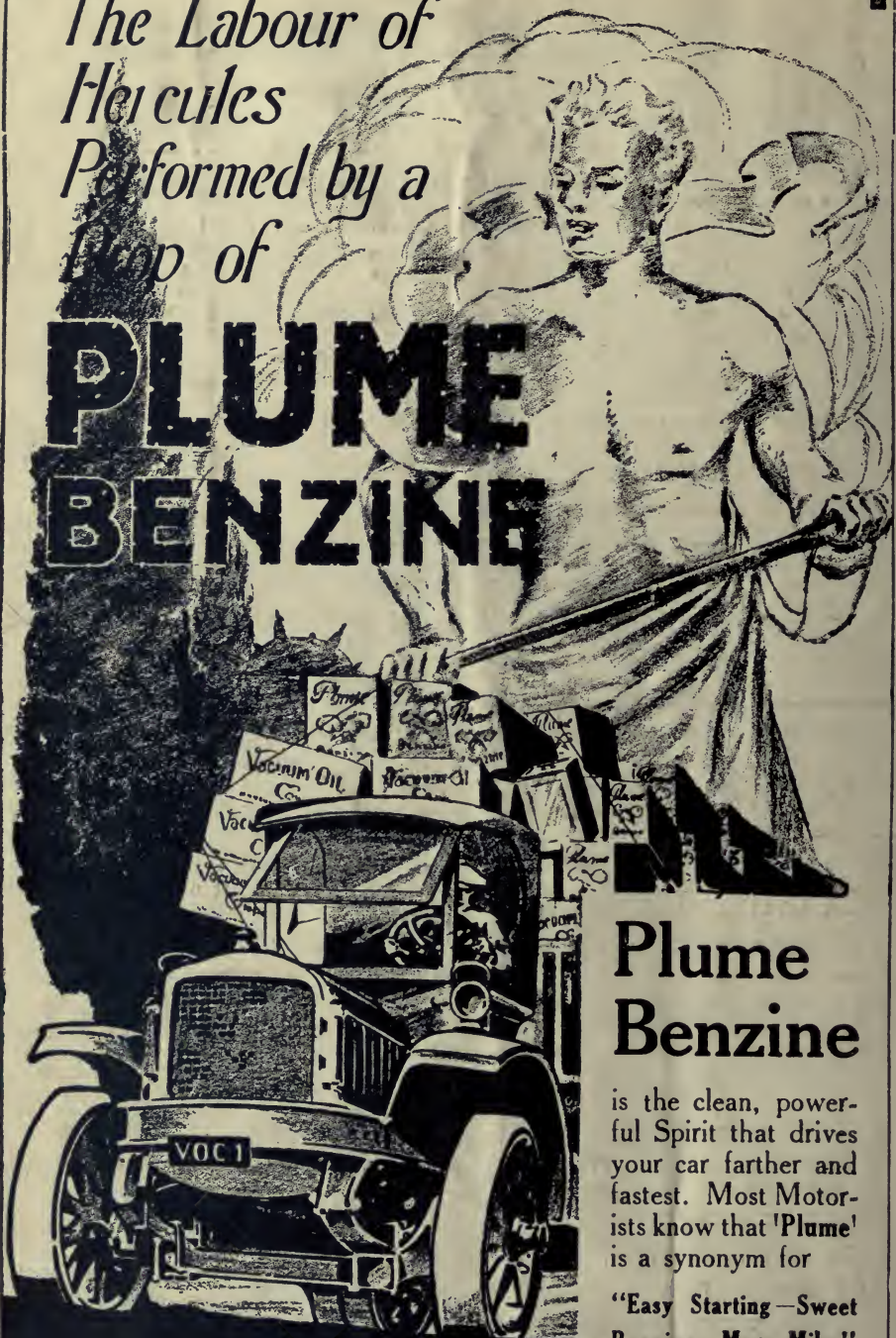
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